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"THE GOVERNMENT WILL NOT BE SO FOOLISH"!

One hour after midnight to-night Ministers will give another violent wrench to the British Constitution. In order to force a Bill through which, when it was introduced, they declared was solely a matter for Mr. Parnell, they intend to put the closure upon all discussion, and vote down all the amendments without even allowing a word to be said in their defence. The House of Commons itself is to be gagged, and why? In order to force through a Bill which only a fortnight since Mr. Smith declared Mr. Parnell could reject with a single word. Ministers have eaten their words so often in this debate that it is hardly worth while harking back to such ancient history as what Mr. Smith said on July 13. But, just as a commentary upon what the Government is going to do in the early hours of to-morrow morning, we reprint the following sentence from the leading columns of the *St. James's Gazette* of July 14:—"If Mr. Parnell does not accept the offer made to "him, there is an end of the matter. . . The Government will not "be so foolish as to give the Parnellites the chance of saying "that their leader was forced by a hostile House of Commons "to stand his trial before a Commission in which he had no con- "fidence." "The Government will not be so foolish"! How innocent is our contemporary of the abysmal depths of folly to which the Government which he supports is capable of plunging. Of course, the same consistent authority will tell us to-night that the course which he derided a fortnight since as one of inconceivable folly has now become the quintessence of infallible wisdom, but the written word remains.

Since Mr. Matthews's dealings with Trafalgar-square, which form an unpleasant compact of vacillation, tergiversation, contradiction, misrepresentation, and breach of faith, there has been nothing quite so disreputable as the way in which the Government have shifted and twisted and prevaricated over this miserable Bill. Mr. Matthews is essentially a stagey politician. But Mr. Toole himself would have failed to do adequate justice to the broad farce with which the Home Secretary regaled the House yesterday afternoon. The spectacle of the Government suddenly becoming "startled and alarmed" by "Parnellism and Crime" in the eleventh hour of their third Session is too grotesque for words. It is about eighteen months since the *Times* served up its forged letter. For twelve months at least Mr. W. H. Smith, in his capacity of newsvendor, has been netting heavy profits on the sale of the *Times* pamphlet, but it was not until the sale began to flag and most people had ceased to think anything about the forgeries, that Ministers suddenly discover that they ought to be startled and alarmed. After this no one need be surprised if Mr. Matthews were to come down to the House in mourning for the death of Queen Anne, or if Mr. Goschen were to propose an immediate adjournment as an expression of sympathy and of horror at the news of the Massacre of the Innocents by King Herod or the slaying of the first-born in Egypt before the Exodus.

We turn from the fierce wrangle, which the Simple Old Man thought was to be over in a couple of hours, to the characteristic letter in which Mr. O'Shea intervenes on behalf of Mr. Chamberlain to pink Mr. Parnell in the back. From the electoral point of view the solid gain of this debate has been the damage which it has done to Mr. Chamberlain. The extent of this damage is hardly appreciated in the House, where the story of his negotiations with Mr. Parnell was an open secret. It is in the constituencies where Mr. Chamberlain has been badly hit by Mr. Parnell's revelation. Mr. Chamberlain owed the extraordinary position which he enjoyed in the Liberal party from 1880 to 1885 to the inveterate belief of the rank and file that he was the stoutest supporter Mr. Gladstone had in his Cabinet. When the birds agreed to elect as their king the bird that could fly highest, the wren hid itself on the back of the eagle, and waited until the royal bird had flown its best. Then, with a chirp of malignant glee, the feathered mite flew aloft and claimed the kingship. For that mean trick, the wren, so fables say, spends its days dodging furtively about the hedgerows, afraid to show its impudent little bill among its fellows. Mr. Chamberlain played the part of the wren. He rose on the broad back of Mr. Gladstone until he thought the moment had come when he could trust to his own pinions. But he was worse than the wren. The little bird did not trouble the eagle. Mr. Chamberlain was more or less in active hostility to the policy of Mr. Gladstone's Cabinet. Of course we knew that well enough, and had to bear the penalty of knowing it in the shape of abuse from those who did not know. Now that, thanks to the statement of Mr. Parnell, the public at large is able better to appreciate the justice of our criticisms in the past the danger is that the reaction may go too far. Mr. Chamberlain is not so able a man as people take him to be, but he is clever enough in his way, and although it seems strange to say it just now, and in this connection, he is an honester man than he seems to be. It is indeed a sign of the altered estimate in which the Jenny Wren of our political hedgerow is held that it should be left to us to say a word in his defence.

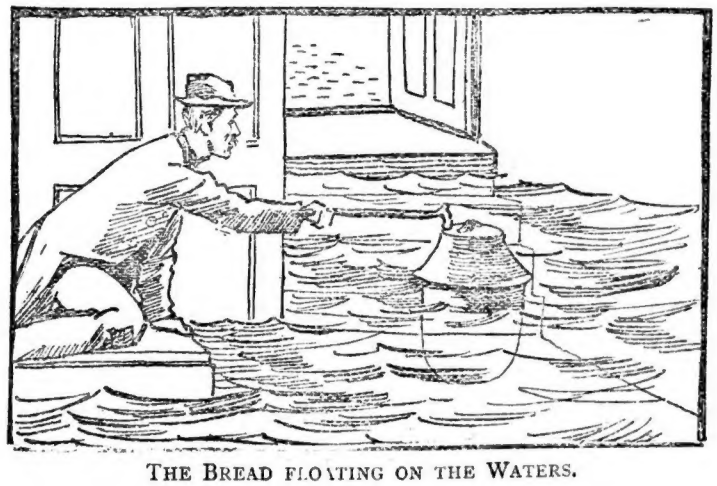
Mr. O'Shea's letter is a carefully calculated blow dealt at Mr. Parnell from behind, but it will do no harm. It is amusing to find Mr. Chamberlain portrayed by the loving pencil of the ex-member for Galway as the advanced Radical who reluctantly assented to Mr. Parnell's scheme for National Councils because it was "not sufficiently consonant with Radical principles." That story about the National Councils is an old one now, and we published the truth about it as long ago as January 1, 1887. As for "Mr. Parnell's Coercion Bill" that is one of Mr. O'Shea's little jokes. But surely the time has come for ceasing these innuendos and half confidences. Mr. Parnell has now no reason for concealing the truth about these negotiations, and now that the ice has been broken it had better all come out.

A DELUGE OF DRAINS IN THE ISLE OF DOGS.

Flooded out of House and Home.

"If the Metropolitan Board of Works would only give us half a ton of coal each it would be some compensation." So said an East-end day-labourer yesterday—one of the numerous unfortunates who have been rained out of house and home by the incessant downpour. His ideas of "compensation" can hardly be accepted, but undoubtedly he and the other sufferers for whom he speaks are entitled to charity. The drainage of the Isle of Dogs is constructed for fair weather only. The present foul weather has forced the sewage up into the houses, and half the district is under a deluge of drains. A relief fund has been formed to cope with the immediate distress, and the names appended to the appeal—including those of Mr. Sydney Buxton, M.P., the Rev. Mr. Chadburn, and Dr. Corner—are sufficient guarantee that the fund will be wisely administered. Subscriptions should be forwarded to the last-mentioned gentleman, at the Manor House, Poplar. How urgent the need for them is will be seen from the following account gathered by our representative on the spot:—

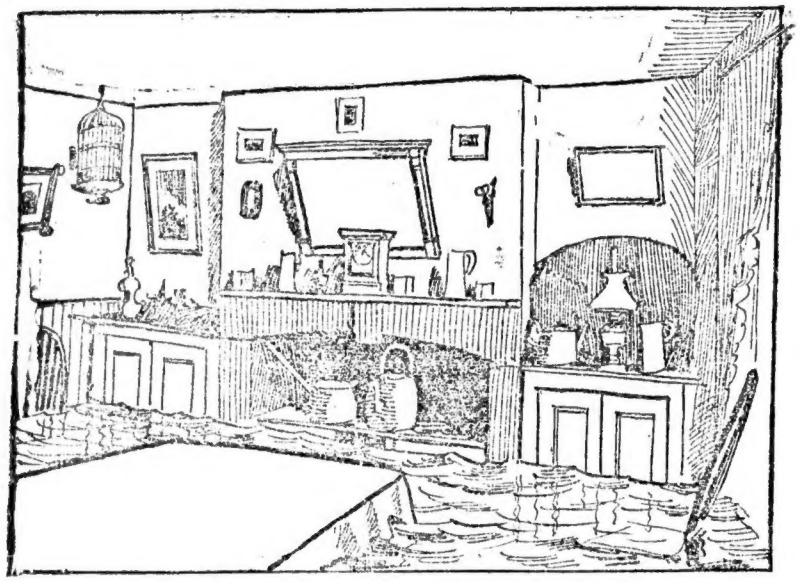
One subject of common interest occupies just now the inhabitants of the Isle of Dogs. It is discussed by travellers in the train, who, looking out of the carriage windows, see the navvies busy shovelling away the stiff



The Bread floating on the Waters.

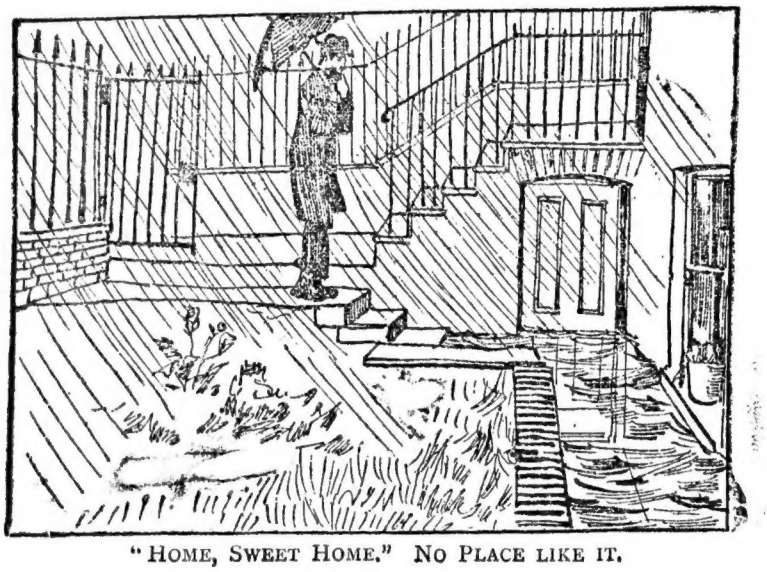
black mud from between the sleepers. At the station, almost from Fenchurch down to the terminus, the "floods" are in everybody's mouth, and in the inundated districts the inhabitants dwell naturally on the damage done to their poor goods and chattels by the recent downpour, which has once again caused

the sewers to overflow and to send floods of black water and slimy malodorous mud into their humble homes. Nor is this the first time that the inhabitants of the Isle of Dogs suffer by the unpardonable inactivity of the Local and Metropolitan Boards. For years past it has been the same. Whenever there was a wet season the sewers prove that they are far too small by overflowing and discharging their filthy contents into the basements or ground floors of the houses. The parishes of Millwall Docks and Christ Church have suffered most, and at the former place only about a score of houses have escaped being flooded on Monday last. Shortly after five many of the occupants of the lower parts of the houses began to notice the water oozing through the floor of their rooms, and in less than half an hour it had risen to a height of about three feet, where it remained till some hours after the tide had turned and the sewage could flow out into the river. What the state of things must have been on Monday can be imagined by what it was yesterday, when in East Ferry-road, for instance, hardly a house could be entered where the same tale of damage and destruction was not told by the occupants. The floors are wet everywhere, and in many cases the boards are soft and rotten, for from between them has oozed up the mud and the



THE KETTLE ON THE HOB, BUT WATER ON THE HEARTH.

water, and below them is shown a black deep bed of mud which will turn into a breeding place of fevers and plagues if in the course of the next few weeks a period of hot weather should set in. In the small court-yards the sinks have brought up what they ought to have carried away, and in spite of barred doors and bolted windows have helped to fill the little rooms till they were a wet wilderness on which swam such pieces of furniture as could not be at once removed when the cry was raised that the water was in. "What can we do?" said woefully a poor day-labourer yesterday, "we can talk and talk, as we have talked these twenty years, but no one listens to us. When it comes we can only try to save our bits of things, and get our children out of it, and wait till the water goes down; then, after we have dried our clothes, taken the mud out, washed the furniture and the floor, we can only light a big fire and try in this way to get our rooms dry again. If nothing else were damaged, we should still have to spend some money in coal, and that is no joke for a man who has to make his living as a dock-labourer. I have had a big fire burning in this grate since six o'clock on Monday morning, and the things are not dry yet. And how do we know that exactly the same thing which happened on Monday night may not happen again this very day? If the Metropolitan Board of Works would only give us half a ton of coal each it would be some compensation, but we may



"HOME, SWEET HOME." NO PLACE LIKE IT.

grumble or petition as much as we like; it is no good at all, and we can only grin and bear it."

In another house the scene of desolation is greater still. The poor widow, who earns her living by her mangle, has heaped up her best pieces of furniture in her little front room, which is still wet and cold, in spite of the big fire. It might, by the way, be midwinter, so universally are large fires burning in almost every living room on the lower floors of the inundated streets. Cutlery, all wet and rusty, is lying about on the chair, having just been rescued from a muddy table drawer; the hearth and the fender are covered with red rust; cloths and small rugs and pieces of carpet are steaming on lines drawn across the rooms, and the mangle in the back room shows still the marks of the mud, over three feet high, to where the flood has risen. Upstairs it is the same; the landlord has taken a lesson from the Board, and left his tenants without protection against the rain, which has everywhere come through the wretched roof, till the ceiling has come down in ruins, and floods of water have followed it. It is as if all Ferry-road were moving into new rooms on quarter day; the rooms are bare and dismantled, and the occupants busy with nothing but their spoiled furniture. But, as a jovial old gentleman said, whose very bed had been soaked, and whose voice was rough with a hoarseness acquired when wading knee-deep through the water in his room, while his legs tottered with rheumatism contracted at the same source, "it is all very well telling us to move into other quarters; we have to make our living at this place, and where our living lies there we must live. You should have seen us on Monday night, when the water burst through floors and doors and windows. The very bread pan was sailing along, and for once in my life I saw my bread floating towards me on the top of the water. And now we can't even get coke to heat our rooms. Coke gives more heat than coal, and all the morning I've tried to beat up a sack of coke, but it seems that there is none in the place."

"Look at this chest of tools," sighs the patient widow, whose scant earnings by her mangle are this week even less than usual, since she can attend to no work till her rooms have been dried and rearranged, "it contains my husband's tools, and was worth at least £20. But it was too heavy for me to carry; the water got in, and now the things are all rusty, and many of them spoilt." And so are many other of the household gods: the couch is still soaking wet, the chair-bottoms are soft and rotten, the carpets drenched and dirty, and the wall-paper torn and tattered. Similar tales are told at almost every house, and high above the Millwall docks, where sewers are not, and where perfect comfort dwells, in lofty, cheerful rooms, sits the presiding genius of the Metropolitan Board of Works, and listens not to the thousandfold voice which once again rises up to it from the otherwise silent regions where the dumb millions dwell. Surely the time has come when voices from other regions ought to sound into the deaf ears of the great Board, and make it arise and do its long-neglected duty by enlarging without delay the sewers of the Isle of Dogs.

FOREIGNERS IN THE JURY BOX.

AN INTERVIEW WITH A GERMAN SPECIAL JUROR.

BETWEEN the aristocratic "grand jury"—that convivial county club, which lunches and dines at assizes and nonchalantly disposes of the business submitted to it—and the crowner's quest—that more important and mostly sympathetic quorum—lies the institution of the "duodecim legales homines" of the Great Charter. In process of time this ancient backbone of English criminal procedure, and in latter days of civil as well, has been variously attacked, ill-used, and abused. The "common," but more especially the "special jury"—although the merits of the latter, as an institution, are somewhat open to question—is in real danger. Mercantile England has long since raised its voice against what it is pleased to call the "foreign invasion" of this country, meaning thereby the successful rivalry of foreigners in the field of commerce and trade. Yet, in the ordinary aspect of commercial life and dealings, there does not seem anything objectionable in the employment of foreigners in this country, who, whether as clerks or merchants, increase the prosperity of old England, while sparing British muscle and energy for the more exhilarating and scientific exertions of the lawn tennis field. This seems sound practical common sense, and not at variance with Free Trade principles. Not so, where the liberty of the subject and the integrity of our legal tribunals are concerned. We can afford to see the foreigner within our gates; we may submit to be swindled, outdone, and even ousted by him; but to initiate him into the secrets of our judicial methods, and give him the run of our courts of law, as well as of our merchants' offices, will eventually bring even the Great Charter, and with it our liberty, to the dust. The French and German Consulates will at no long period of time become our courts of appeal, and claim to revise all verdicts. And why? Because such verdicts will be delivered by men who own allegiance to these (to us) ex-territorial tribunals.

This somewhat exaggerated picture of the future of our English legal institutions was suggested to the writer by a conversation had, a short time since, with a respectable German subject, who had lately served upon special juries. It did not, however, appear as though my informant was at all anxious to discharge the obligations which the country of his temporary adoption thought fit to impose upon him. Not even the guinea a sitting could induce him to think that either his status, importance, or interests were enhanced by this generous invitation of the authorities under whom he exercised his trade. On the other hand, placing himself in the position of the plaintiff or defendant in a civil action, he had not such confidence in the judgment of his compatriots as would induce him to desire to place his cause in their hands. I pressed upon him to give me the benefit of the experience gained in the seven sittings (which altogether took up four days of his time).

"How many of the jurymen empanelled with you were foreigners?"

"We were four foreigners (Germans) altogether, our foreman being one."

"Now, Mr. ——, you understand English very well, but can you say the same of your countrymen empanelled with you on this occasion?"

"No. I think I may say that, with the exception of the foreman and myself, they—that is, the other two—were comparatively ignorant of the

language, and of course entirely so of your legal procedure. How is it possible for men, who are in German houses, and spend most of their spare time with their own countrymen, to acquire an accurate knowledge of the language, to say nothing of legal phraseology?"

"Do you suppose that these two men had any idea of what was going on?"

"None whatever. They relied, and for that matter, I believe, most of us did, upon the foreman, and were asleep most of the time."

"You said you were empanelled upon juries with the same co-jurors for all the seven cases?"

"That was so."

"Did you retire, or did you on each occasion give your verdict without leaving the box?"

"Without leaving the box. The foreman stated his opinion, and that seemed to us as good as any that we had or could form. That is, his opinion did not appear to us to be other than was right or fair. Of course, we should have devoted much more thought to a criminal case."

"That, of course, would have been perfectly natural. Now, Mr. ——, it is conceivable that the whole jury of twelve persons could be formed of aliens who have the necessary qualifications, the major portion of whom would not attend to the proceedings, and rely merely upon their foreman. But supposing a jury so constituted, and that the majority had no faith in the foreman, how do you suppose that they would arrive at their verdict?"

"They would then listen to the judge and be guided by him."

"Now, I am not referring to you, who know enough of English methods of procedure to do otherwise, but what is the ordinary view your countrymen, for instance, as a rule, take of the position of the judge in such cases?"

"It is the common view that the judge decides the case and tells the jury which way to bring in their verdict."

"You mean that some definite ruling of the judge upon a side issue, if sufficiently (quite accidentally) impressive, might suffice for the jury, and that they thereupon would make up their minds to give their verdict in accordance with what they conceived to be his opinion, which was actually never given at all?"

"I do. You see, these men, living the life they have done, as I have hinted, and hailing from a country where the procedure in civil cases is entirely different, have no notion whatever of the respective duties of judge and jury. All they want is to be able to get away as soon as possible from the tedious ordeal, and be back at their offices or other work. How can you expect persons who are aliens to make a study of British legal institutions, when their life here is one of toil for their daily bread? But I am convinced that none of them would willingly give a verdict against what they thought was the weight of evidence; but their ideas of the whole formality (for they consider it nothing else) are different to those of Englishmen, and this is quite natural."

"You are, then, of opinion, Mr. ——, knowing your countrymen as well as you do, that they ought not to be employed upon our juries?"

"Most certainly I do. If each juryman were to write down his opinion on paper, and, as a result, a deliberation were to take place after retirement, I think that they would, however, do no harm. As it is, there is, I dare say, very frequently a miscarriage of justice."

The above conversation may be taken to be substantially correct. It appears, moreover, but this was not elicited, that it is the custom, and constant habit for aliens, in contravention of the Juries Act, 1870, to be placed on the book before the ten years' domicile required by the Act has been fulfilled. Objections and claims to exemption from serving must (as is well known) be made at or before the revision of the list by the magistrates. The poor foreigner thus summoned (and wrongly) presents himself and serves, it may be with protest, but, being ignorant of the ways of things, serves, it may be, to the detriment of the party whom he would, if he knew how, benefit.

*M. DAUDET ON THE FRENCH ACADEMY.**

PARISIAN society which M. Daudet depicts with so much biting sarcasm and unerring vividness buys up his novels by the thousand, and, as a rule, accepts the rather gruesome portrait of itself with amused nonchalance. But in "L'Immortel" the author has overstepped the boundary line of friendly criticism, and neither the "immortal forty" nor the select literary coterie which offers up incense before the altars of the Academy are at all likely readily to forgive the insult put upon them. To tell the truth, the book is a very venomous attack on that venerable institution, the "Académie Française." One after another the literary fossils of which it is composed are trotted out before the reader, their prejudices, their vanities, their hypocrisies ruthlessly exposed. If the process is an entertaining one for the ordinary reader, it must be ten times more so for the initiated Parisian, quick to recognize sketches from life under the thin veneer of fiction. From the purely artistic point of view the novel is somewhat spoilt by the very bitterness of the onslaught; we rather miss M. Daudet's inimitable lightness of touch, in the sledge-hammer directness of his blows. The moral of the book is too obvious not to run the risk at times of growing wearisome. But as a study of character, as a realistic picture of contemporary "mœurs parisiennes," "L'Immortel" is fully as interesting as any of its predecessors.

It is as a sort of literary Minotaur that Daudet pictures the Academy, attracting and engulphing the best intellects of France, only to clog their faculties, to stifle their imagination, and to transform them from ambitious, struggling artists into torpid, self-satisfied Philistines. It is like a fever which seizes on men, this mania to attain to the dignity of a "fauteuil;" for this they sacrifice duty, family, friendship, and become capable, in their egoistic haste, of committing every meanness and treachery. The typical Immortal according to M. Daudet's estimate, is shown in the person of Astier Réhu, pompous, narrow-minded, and laborious, the writer of histories that nobody reads, his whole life centred in the Palais Mazarin. Even real scholarship is denied him, for he is miserably duped as to the authenticity of some forged letters by the little dwarf Fage; at length when the discovery of the deception covers him with ridicule his eyes are opened to the sham and the hollowness of his literary labours, and in a fit of despair he throws himself into the Seine. The aspirants for an eagerly-awaited vacancy suffer from the demoralization as much as the members themselves; while Moser is ready to sacrifice his daughter's honour in the hope of receiving an extra vote, the poet Freydet causes the death of his invalid sister by dragging her from her happy country home in order to assist him in his futile candidature. The cupidity of the men is only equalled by the scheming of the women; indeed the backstairs influence of the fair sex appears to reign supreme in the Palais Mazarin, and the election of a candidate depends far more on the canvassing of his "chère amie" than upon his own literary works. To complete the picture, we have a contrast in the person of the sculptor Vidrine, who alone shrugs his shoulders at the solemn dignity of the Academy, and who remains "bon garçon" and human and original throughout. That the picture is one-sided and exaggerated there can be no doubt, but as the revolt of the younger school of novelists against the dominion of the supreme literary tribunal of France—we might almost say, of Europe—it cannot fail to exercise a considerable influence on the literary world.

But "L'Immortel" does not deal exclusively with the "forty" and their doings. We have young Paul Astier, a type of modern Paris, cold, calculating, passionless, faultlessly attired, and superficially fascinating; the tender passages between Paul and the charming Princesse Colette give Daudet an opportunity of showing once more his wonderful skill in analyzing the human passions. And we have the miserable society tragedy of the Duchess Padviani and her faithless lover, the Prince d'Athis—also an Academician—whom for fifteen years she had loved and served. Although the book contains but little of the intense pathos of "Jack," or "Le Petit Chose," it is somewhat depressing reading: the society depicted is more than usually cynical and worldly, and we cannot refrain from hoping that the great novelist, having poured out so large a dose of venom on his fellow citizens on the present occasion, may in his next volume treat us to a more sympathetic side of human nature.

* "L'Immortel." Par Alphonse Daudet. (Alphonse Lemerre. 1888.)

NEW BOOKS.

"BY VIRTUE OF HIS OFFICE."

"By Virtue of his Office." By Rowland Grey. (Kegan Paul, Trench, and Co.) "Rowland Grey" has not repeated here the undoubted success of her short stories published under the title of "Lindenblumen." The new tale is well written; it has an excellent purpose; the tone of thought and sentiment throughout is all that could be wished. But it seems to want a natural motive, and does not leave the impression which every book of the kind should leave, that it has been written because the author has a story to tell. The plot, with its too familiar complication of children suffering for the sins of parents, is manifestly artificial and unreal. Two or three faults may be profitably pointed out to a writer who has undoubtedly a future before her. A certain Lord Ronald Ingram gives occasion for a series of blunders. First he is described as "heir-*apparent* to a dukedom, his invalid elder brother being childless." Then his wife is spoken of as "Lady Ingram." Further on Lord Ronald is described as "a future earl," and the girl whom he is to marry now (p. 332) looks forward to being "Countess of Carstairs," and now (p. 342) "has the coronet of a duchess in prospect." It is scarcely good taste to describe the sky as of the "colour of pale-blue gauze, just flecked with a trimming of clouds like swansdown."

A BOOK ON FERNS.

"Choice British Ferns: Their Varieties and Culture." By Charles T. Druery, F.L.S. (London: T. Upcott Gill. 1888.) It can hardly be too often repeated that a knowledge of any single branch of natural history adds a perennial charm to country life, and even to casual rambles in the woods or fields. Few branches are more generally accessible than botany, and the enthusiasm which can be evoked by a love of the fern family in particular is illustrated in the neatly got up volume before us, wherein we are told of an ardent collector who, having discovered a rare specimen rooted ineradicably upon a rock of several hundredweight, actually rolled the boulder some miles across country to secure his prize. The primary object of the volume is to bring up to date, in book form, our present scientific knowledge of the *Filices*, and particularly of those interesting developments and variations to which, under cultivation, they are subject. These have of recent years been overlooked by practical horticulturists in favour of more showy objects. The author is master of his subject, and treats it throughout in a pleasant and popular manner, his remarks on the complex subject of natural variation being particularly clear and well thought out, and these are well worthy perusal by scientists other than the special class to whom he addresses himself. The illustrations, of which there are many, are clear and good, especially the full-page relief plates, and we can recommend the book to all lovers of a very beautiful section of the plant world.

OCCASIONAL NOTES.

The Cape Parliament has unanimously passed resolutions against separating the High Commissionership of South Africa from the Governorship of Cape Colony. That is of course. The Cape Parliament is certain to be against anything which emancipates the Imperial authority in South Africa from the thumb of the Cape Ministry. But from the fact that the resolutions have been passed, it would seem that there must be some intention to make the change. That is good news, such good news that we wait for its confirmation before venturing to believe it.

The news from Zanzibar indirectly confirms what we have heard from Suakin. The Mahdi, it seems, thought to crush Emin Pasha before Stanley arrived to assist him, and called upon him to surrender, sending a force to back up his demand. Emin Pasha determined to surprise it, and we know from Suakin that he has been successful, with disastrous consequences to the Mahdi. These events occurred in April. As to Stanley there are two accounts. The first represents him as hemmed in between hostile tribes, which was true enough up to the beginning of the year. The second says he had diverted his course "in an unknown direction." Our hope is accordingly increased that he has opened up communications with Emin Pasha, and that he is supporting him, either by independent or by joint operations, in the region of Bahr-el-Gazelle. The cloud is clearly lifting, and by-and-by we shall see something even more startling. The next news from Khartoum may be dramatic.

Mr. Cuninghame Graham is to ask Mr. Matthews to-night if the Government intend to do anything to remedy the insanitary state of police cells in London and elsewhere. A legal gentleman who got locked up in Bow-street the other night writes to us that in the few hours that elapsed before the constables condescended to send for bail he killed no fewer than thirty fine large specimens of the *Cimex lectularius*, commonly known as B flats, to distinguish them from their more lively neighbours the F sharps. The best remedy would be to lock up the Home Secretary once a week in a London police-cell. He has amply merited such an attention, and long before he had made the round every police station would be in apple-pie order.

A new formula has been invented in Paris, which we respectfully commend to Sir Charles Warren and Mr. Matthews for adoption in this country. An ex-sergeant, who was attracted by the good looks of a young lady in the streets of Paris, followed her home, and finding that she resented his attentions, proclaimed himself an agent of the morals police, summoned two policemen, and had the lady arrested as a bad character, just as if he had belonged to the communion of Saints of which St. Endacott and St. Bloy are bright and shining lights. As the charge was baseless, the scoundrel was arrested and tried. He escaped punishment, however, on the plea that his brain was affected by the presence therein of a Paludal Bacillus, or Marsh Microbe. The formula is invaluable, and will no doubt be at once patented for constant use by the whitewashing authorities of Scotland-yard.

Sixty-three persons were killed last year at level crossings. "These fatalities," says the official report, "are principally due to the want of caution on the part of the persons themselves, but might be reduced by the erection of foot-bridges at all busy level-crossings." No doubt they might: if there were no stumbling-blocks there would be no stumbles. But foot-bridges are a counsel of perfection, and meanwhile why should not the railway companies adopt the simple and inexpensive expedient of an alarm-bell? At each level-crossing there should be a bell connected—just as signals are—with the rails. Every train on nearing a level-crossing might set the bell ringing until the train had passed. Such a contrivance has been worked out, and it ought to be adopted at once.

On the occasion of the Phœnix Park murders, the *Times* accused Mr. J. Redmond of having sympathized with the murder of Mr. Burke. The ground for the accusation was that in proposing a resolution condemning the outrage Mr. Redmond had omitted the name of Mr. Burke. Mr. Redmond immediately wrote to the *Times* explaining that "after making the most careful inquiry from detectives and others, he had only been able to ascertain at the time when he had made his speech that Lord Frederick Cavendish had been murdered." The *Times* suppressed the letter. Subsequently Mr. Redmond repeated his explanation in the House of Commons. The *Times* suppressed the speech. So Mr. Redmond asserted from his place in the House last night. And if his assertions be true every one will endorse what Mr. Morley said, that "the story loaded the *Times* newspaper and its conductors with something which he, as an experienced journalist, did not hesitate to call the deepest infamy."

But what does the *Times* do this morning? Two very characteristic things. First, it again suppresses Mr. Redmond's explanation as far as it dares—it reports his "writing to the *Times* a letter," but not the contents of the letter. And then it complains of Mr. Morley's "scandalous" conduct in "daring to accuse this journal," &c. Really this is too much. The *Times*, it seems, may accuse any one it likes of "infamies" without evidence, but nobody may accuse the *Times* even with evidence. If it goes on puffing itself up at this rate, it will want not only a Special Commission to defend it, but a special sphere to hold it.

Much the most sensational item of news in the papers this morning is the stampede of elephants through the streets of Munich. To dress up a steam-roller as a fiery dragon was a great stroke of genius, which may be commended to the attention of the Lord Mayor next November—say as typical of the Metropolitan Board of Works, with Mr. Ritchie as St. George—but in that case there must be no elephants in the procession. Elephants can stand many things, tigers included, but they draw the line at steam rollers done up as dragons. The stampede through the crowded streets of Munich of eight terrified elephants resulted in many deaths, but considering that the pachyderms ran through a house carrying off the roof on their backs, upset a grand stand and careered through narrow streets crowded with sightseers, they must have displayed all their usual careful caution, even in their stampede, not to have occasioned much more slaughter.

The coroner's court is one of the most venerable institutions of British Law, and one of the corner-stones of British Order. One might imagine, therefore, that the champions of Law and Order would pay it some respect; but this is how Dr. Barr, the "excellent medical man" employed by Mr. Balfour as official whitewasher of Irish prisons, wrote on the subject to the late Dr. Ridley:—

> "The Coroner's court . . . . should be treated with contempt."

It is true that Dr. Barr adds as his reason that "in Ireland" the said court "seems to be conducted in a most disgraceful manner." It refuses, he means, to be the tool of the Castle; therefore it "should be treated with contempt"—a pretty lesson of lawlessness in high places.

The criticisms upon Mr. Chamberlain's letter about the van and wheel tax are sustained by Mr. Taylor's reply. The supposed concessions vanish into thin air, leaving not a wrack behind. The London Committee knows nothing of Mr. Chamberlain's negotiations with Mr. Goschen, and does not accept the compromise, and repudiates his account of its origin. The compromise, remarks the chairman of the London Committee, which has led the opposition, "offers nothing more than Mr. Goschen offered in his bill as printed." This account is in agreement with general opinion, and it leaves the objections to the van and wheel tax precisely as they were. Mr. Goschen's difficulties, in fact, have increased rather than diminished.

Four days ago the North Western suddenly gave notice that from August 1 they would run to Edinburgh in 8½ hours. They probably thought that by taking this move at the eleventh hour they would "do the Great Northern, as there would not be time for the latter Company to arrange reprisals. The Great Northern, however, promptly returned the service, and in a few hours had issued its working notices all over the line to announce that from August 1 they, with the North Eastern, would undertake the run in eight hours. Yesterday saw the beginning of this unprecedented race to Edinburgh; and beneath the roof of the Great Northern terminus there was an air of sporting excitement as the hour drew near.

Between ten and eleven yesterday morning the sight at King's-cross was extraordinary. Six expresses were despatched within forty-three minutes, all except one from the same platform. An apparently hopeless vista of luggage stretched the length of the platform, and it looked as if a great Cunarder had been disembarking passengers, so vast were the piles of ladies' trunks. Between these surged two thousand people, each with an average of ten inquiries demanding urgent attention. Bicycles, babies, dogs, and perambulators, helpless invalids and an army of children, pushed and pulled, drifted and flew, till at last they all got safely into port. At ten o'clock Mr. Cockshott stepped up on the footplate of the new eight-hour express, which moved off on its maiden journey to Edinburgh, leaving a score of admiring loungers in the rain to see it start. Nine carriages for Glasgow and Perth followed close behind at 10.5, and at 10.10 the Leeds and Manchester

pursued with "15 on." The remaining crowd, which seemed as big as ever, flocked into the two portions of the 10.25, the first of which, containing passengers for Edinburgh and the North, got off at 10.25, but the second, crammed with eager groups for Whitby and Scarborough, could not wrench itself away till 10.34. Its castaways took refuge in the 10.35, fourteen carriages full, which got away at 10.43, too soon for some late arrivals. As this sixth express sailed out the perspiring porters disappeared, and silence reigned again as if nothing had occurred.

Those English men and women who are just about to start for a summer trip to Germany will do well to read carefully the article in the August number of the *Woman's World* in which Miss L. S. Bevington discusses "Women in Germany." Our countrywomen will then at all events enter the Fatherland with a thankful heart that they are not as German women are, whose lives are summed up in the following remarks: "The minor and superficial domesticities of the hour are her only field of aspiration; *klatsch* with her feminine acquaintances, or hanging out of window, are the most usual delights of her leisure hours; and even within the province assigned to her she habitually shrinks from the smallest mental departure on her own account." Consequently—let Englishmen listen and beware lest on their travels they fall into the snare of some fair German enchantress—"the majority of German women are decidedly poor company, and the German home is humdrum and barren of all attraction for the other sex."

THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE PETROLEUM TRADE

INTERVIEW WITH MR. BOVERTON REDWOOD.

As considerable attention is being given at the present time to improvements in the method of transport of petroleum, and in appliances for the use of the oil, we took occasion to have some conversation on these points with Mr. Boverton Redwood, F.C.S., the secretary and chemist of the Petroleum Association, a body which was formed in 1866 to provide for the proper conduct of the petroleum trade.

"Yes," said Mr. Redwood, "you are doubtless right in regarding the present development of the system of transporting petroleum in bulk as of public importance, since presumably the effect of the general adoption of the system will be to reduce the cost of the product, and thus to extend the use of what is already the cheapest light-producing material for domestic purposes. In preparing the Cantor lectures on petroleum, delivered at the Society of Arts two years ago, I gave careful consideration to the question of the relative economy of lighting with mineral oil and with coal gas. Much, of course, depends upon the conditions under which the oil and gas are used; but, without troubling you with the details, I may state that my experiments led me to the conclusion that under ordinary circumstances a given amount of light may be obtained from petroleum at about one half the cost of an equivalent quantity of coal gas."

TRANSPORT IN BULK.

"What are the characteristic features of ocean transport in bulk?"

"They are easily stated. Instead of the oil being packed in the familiar blue painted oak barrels, which hold about forty-two gallons, it is pumped from the tanks at the refinery, or at the port of shipment, into tank steamers, and thence into storage tanks at the port of discharge. These tank steamers are specially built for the trade, and are of considerable tonnage, their carrying capacity amounting in some cases to as much as one million gallons. There is very considerable economy of time and labour in the loading and discharging of oil in bulk, these operations, which in the case of a large cargo of oil in barrels occupy a number of men for many days, being effected in a few hours with the powerful steam pumps employed."

"To what extent has the system of ocean transport in bulk superseded that of transport in barrels?"

"So far as this country is concerned, the bulk system has hitherto been almost entirely confined to the importation of Russian oil, and the quantity of this product shipped to the United Kingdom during last year amounted to about 7¾ million gallons, while of American oil the exports to this country during the same period were over 61½ million gallons, but the arrangements understood to be in progress will doubtless, before many months have elapsed, result in a large proportion of the American oil being transported in bulk, which appears to indicate the growing confidence of the trade in this system. To the Continent both American and Russian petroleum is largely shipped in bulk, and I believe that there are at the present time from twenty-five to thirty tank steamers engaged in the petroleum trade, without counting those on the Caspian Sea."

FOR STREET AND HOUSE LIGHTING.

"Petroleum is now used for street lighting in some districts in this country, is it not?" "Yes, that is so, and I am of opinion that there is a very large field for its employment in this way, especially where, in consequence of the sparseness of the population, or from other causes, gas is dear or unobtainable. Until recently, the necessity for the frequent trimming and replenishing of the lamps has constituted a serious objection to the use of the oil for outdoor lighting, but these difficulties are being overcome, and lamps are now made which will burn for lengthened periods without attention."

"I suppose the poorer classes are still the chief consumers of petroleum?"

"Undoubtedly, though the use of the oil is rapidly extending among the upper classes. I look for a large increase in the already considerable employment of mineral oil for cooking and for warming apartments.

"To what do you attribute the increasing use of petroleum by the wealthy?"

"To the improvements in mineral oil lamps, and to the readiness with which the oil lends itself to the production of artistic effects. A few heavily-shaded lamps judiciously placed in a drawing-room produce a pleasing effect of light which it would be difficult otherwise to obtain, and the oil is so cheap that one can afford, in obtaining the result, to obscure a large proportion of the light. No doubt the employment of mineral oil under these circumstances is also due to the fact that the ignorance of the properties of the oil which formerly prevailed has been largely dispelled, and much of the prejudice which existed has thus been removed."

THE DANGER OF ACCIDENTS.

"What have you to say in regard to the accidents with paraffin lamps which are from time to time recorded in the press?"

"That is an important point, and I am glad you have raised it. Sir Frederick Abel and I have been engaged for some time in investigating the causes of such accidents, and as the result of our experimental inquiry we have drawn up a series of suggestions relating to the construction and use of mineral oil lamps, which have been embodied in a memorandum issued by the Metropolitan Board of Works. The principal points to be guarded against are the use of a fragile lamp reservoir to hold the oil, and the communication of flame from the burning wick to the inflammable mixture of petroleum vapour and air which is liable to accumulate in the upper part of the reservoir. There is no difficulty in constructing lamps complying with the conditions of safety which we have laid down, and, in fact, lamps which may be used without the slightest risk are now almost everywhere obtainable."

"If this be so, how is it that accidents still occur?"

"Simply because of the difficulty of educating the public to an intelligent appreciation of the facts of the case. Moreover, it should be borne in mind that the number of lamps which do mischief is very small in proportion to the number in use, and Captain Shaw's reports bear witness to the fact that candles, gas, and matches are not used without originating a considerable number of fires every year."

THE PRODUCTION AND CONSUMPTION.

"What is the consumption of mineral oil in the United Kingdom at the present time?"

"Including American and Russian petroleum, and Scottish paraffin oil, about ninety million gallons per annum, and the consumption is a steadily increasing one."

"I suppose the amount of petroleum consumed in the United Kingdom bears but a small proportion to the quantity produced in the United States and Russia?"

"Oh, yes, decidedly. The United States manufactures for the home and export trades at the present time over 1,750,000 imperial gallons of refined burning oil per day, and the outturn of kerosene in Russia is more than 400,000 gallons per day."

"I believe you have visited the oil regions. Now, is the production so unlimited as to make you apprehensive as to the permanence of the supply?"

"I have made several visits to the oil-fields of the United States, on the last occasion with Colonel Majendie, C.B., her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Explosives, and I have also been to the Baku oil-fields, and I am convinced that we need feel at present no concern in regard to our future supplies. It is true that during last year the average consumption of crude petroleum in the United States exceeded the production by about 460,000 imperial gallons per day, the deficiency being made up from the accumulated stocks, which at the end of the year still amounted to over 992 million gallons, and at one time reached the enormous total of nearly 1,400,000,000 gallons, but the production has for some time past been artificially restricted as the necessary outcome of the said enormous accumulation of stocks. Moreover, there is no doubt about the existence of petroleum in large quantities in other localities in the United States. It is likewise true that the depth of the wells in the principal producing field in Southern Russia is gradually increasing, the average depth of the recently drilled wells being 770 feet, as compared with 154 feet in 1873, which may be taken to indicate exhaustion of the territory, but some of the recently drilled wells have yielded as plentifully as any. Petroleum also exists in other parts of the world, and any considerable falling off in the sources of supply now being worked would at once lead to active developments elsewhere."

POSSIBLE LEGISLATION.

"Your visit with Colonel Majendie to the United States was made in connection with proposed additional petroleum legislation in this country, was it not?"

"Yes, it was an extension of the investigations which we had previously made in Europe with the object of observing the conditions under which the petroleum trade was carried on in other countries."

"The Home Secretary has stated in Parliament that a bill is in course of preparation. Do you anticipate that the new legislation will impede the development of the system of importing and storing petroleum in bulk?"

"No; I have not the least reason to suppose that this will be the case."

"Do you think that additional legislation is called for in the interests of public safety?"

"Past experience alone can scarcely be said to afford justification for it, for petroleum fires have been of far rarer occurrence, and of less destructive character, than timber fires, for instance, and probably the petroleum risk is one of the most profitable to the insurance companies, but as a matter of principle it is no doubt desirable that a trade which involves the storage of an inflammable liquid in large quantities should be placed under legislative control. It is, however, important, in the interests of the public, that the legal restrictions should not be such as to enhance the cost of the article, especially in view of the fact that petroleum is the source of light of the poor."

REMINISCENCES OF THE LATE MR. FRANK HOLL, R.A.—II.

By One who Knew him.

I have mentioned two of the objects of Mr. Holl's ambition—the painting of her Majesty's judges in a group, and the representation of feminine beauty. But stronger even than his hopes in this respect was his desire to paint Prince Bismarck. "That's what I should like to do," he once cried when we were talking over his future work, "more than anything else on earth. What a magnificent head the man has! I wonder if he would let me paint him if I got the necessary introduction? I should like to see if I could not measure swords, or brushes, at least with Franz Lensbach." Mr. Holl's work, as I have said, brought him into contact with the most eminent and delightful men of the day. Of his experiences he usually made notes, having the possibility of an autobiography in view, when those who might object would no longer be in a position to do so. Of course, during the many hours' sitting which posing for a portrait involves plenty of opportunity occurs for conversation, and of such opportunities it was Mr. Holl's wont to avail himself to the utmost, not only for the sake of obtaining greater insight into the characters of his sitters, but also with a view to self-improvement, as well as from a desire to avoid any approach to boredom in the sitter, which would necessarily be reflected in the face. One of these incidents I think I may, without charge of indiscretion, recount as he told it to me. When he was painting the portrait of Mr. Bright he incidentally mentioned that he was about to perform the same operation on Mr. Gladstone. "It must be a very painful thing for you, Mr. Bright," he hazarded, "that after all these years you should have found cause to sever your connection?" "Indeed it is," responded Mr. Bright, with a sigh: "to think that after we have trodden the same path together, shoulder to shoulder and hand in hand, we should be forced apart in the evening of our lives! And by what? By a bogey that has risen up within him and is beckoning him away from duty and sense—by a Frankenstein. Do you know, Mr. Holl, I seriously fear that my dear old friend's mind has really become radically undermined?" When he was at Hawarden, painting Mr. Gladstone, the subject of the artist's portrait of Mr. Bright cropped up. "Ah!" said Mr. Gladstone, with much interest, "and how did you find him?" "Fairly well; and he spoke very affectionately of you, Mr. Gladstone." "Did he indeed?" replied the sitter, sorrowfully; "did he indeed? That was a cruel blow. That after a lifetime of mutual esteem and of good work undertaken and carried through together we should be divided on so clear a question! Tell me, Mr. Holl"—and here his mouth twitched, for he was evidently struggling with great emotion—"tell me, did you notice anything in the manner of my old friend which would lead you to believe that his reason was becoming in any way unhinged?"

Of all the amiable men, kindly and courteous, I ever met, none surpassed Mr. Holl in all the qualities that make a man beloved. He was not, as has been stated, unaware of the uncertainty of his health, for Sir William Jenner had made strong representations to him, and had inflicted a severe prescription on him: "He's cut off my 'baccy," said the victim to me; "he said one pipe a day is as much as is good for me, and *half a pipe is more*." For it was no uncommon thing for him to faint, which, as every one knows, is not a healthy symptom in a man of forty-two. Sir William Jenner, whom Mr. Holl had helped to immortalize, had saved his life when he was but two years old—an illness, doubtless, which sowed the seeds of his early death—took a fatherly interest in the artist—or he never would have sat for his portrait, having, as Mr. Holl told me, an invincible dislike to being painted. So much so, indeed, that he never looked at the picture till hung in Burlington House, and then only when, having for once a *congé* from his weekly visit to the Queen, he was enabled for the first time in his life to attend the Academy dinner. One of the most striking likenesses Mr. Holl ever painted, in his opinion, was that of General Stewart, whom he never saw. It was his only posthumous work and was worked up from photographs and descriptions. Yet so excellent a portrait was it that some of the officers of the mess it decorates declined to believe that the artist had not received sittings from the unfortunate General. His oldest sitter was Captain Sims, who was ninety-five years old when he posed; and only one lady was ever placed on canvas by him.

In addition to the beautiful house, The Three Gables, which Mr Norman Shaw, R.A., built for him in Fitzjohn's-avenue, Mr. Holl had a lovely residence with large grounds in Surrey, on the road from Gomshall to Newhurst.

America's Wheat Exports.

The total export of wheat (and flour as wheat) in the United States for the year ended June 30, 1888, is officially returned at 116,703,330 bushels. With a crop of 430,000,000 bushels it is estimated that there will be 110,000,000 bushels available for export during the twelve months ending July 1, 1889, against 116,000,000 bushels during the past year. The Dominion authorities estimate the grain crop of Manitoba and the North-West Territories at 20,000,000 bushels, which will allow an export of 15,000,000 bushels, or 25 per cent. more than last year. The Canadian Pacific Railway is increasing its rolling stock in anticipation of an increased traffic.

At Home and Abroad.

Four guns belonging to the mountain battery stationed at Darjeeling have been ordered to Gnatong, which place they are expected to reach on the 10th inst. The Goorkhas will arrive on the 15th. One company of the Derbyshire Regiment with the two remaining guns will hold the base at Padong. On the arrival of the reinforcement Colonel Graham will attack the Thibetans in the Jelapla Pass.

The last house dinner of the National Liberal Club for the season took place last night, Sir W. Foster, M.P., presiding.

Lady Bandon presented the 3rd battalion of the Royal Munster Fusiliers, at present stationed at Kinsale, with new colours yesterday.

The Orient Line steamer *Liguria*, which arrived at Plymouth yesterday, brought 5,965 carcases of mutton and thirty-five pieces of beef.

At the adjourned inquest yesterday on Frank Cullen, killed in the Hyde Junction railway accident, a verdict of accidental death was returned.

The death is announced from Munich of Duke Maximilian of Würtemberg, at the age of sixty-one.

It is stated in Berlin on good authority that the Emperor has commanded that the Gardes du Corps, and all German Cuirassier regiments, shall be armed with and exercised in the use of the lance after the 1st of October next.

A determined attempt was made yesterday by the invading force, in the Aldershot manœuvres, to capture the Aldershot position. When the fight ceased the defenders were still in possession.

Mr. Goschen has promised to address a meeting in Aberdeen on the 23rd or 24th of October next in connection with the Liberal Unionist Association. Lord Hartington, who was also invited, has deferred his visit until next year.

The Leamington Liberal Club last night discussed two resolutions of censure upon the Speaker of the House of Commons for his conduct in the chair. The mayor (Mr. John Fell) presided over a large attendance of members.

Felix Scott, a powerfully-built black man, and a champion light weight boxer, was sentenced to eighteen months' imprisonment with hard labour, at the Liverpool assizes, yesterday, for biting off part of a constable's ear.

At Great Yarmouth yesterday, William Hall, a labourer, was committed for trial on a charge of murdering his wife. She died suddenly, and a post-mortem examination led to the discovery that she had been brutally ill-treated.

The Central Co-operative Board visited the Irish Exhibition yesterday, and a Co-operative Congress was held in the new concert hall, under the presidency of the Earl of Aberdeen.

England's readiness to sign the Suez Canal Convention has, it is said, been officially communicated to the Porte. It is probable that the signature will take place in Constantinople.

The works which have been undertaken at Batoum, for the purpose of converting it into a harbour capable of holding men-of-war, are expected to be finished in January. They consist of a mole, quay, and jetty, all covered by the fortifications.

The German Emperor has commanded Anton von Werner to paint a picture representing his Majesty's first opening of the Reichstag. All the Sovereigns, Princes, and other distinguished personages who were present are to be painted from life.

A Durban telegram announces that the native chief Somkeli has submitted unconditionally to the British, and has promised to deliver up the looters and murderers whose surrender has been demanded. Major M'Kean's column will now march direct against Dinizulu.

Mr. W. H. Smith, M.P., left London last evening for Greenlands, Henley-on-Thames, to attend the funeral of his son-in-law, Rear-Admiral Codrington, C.B., who died at Tunbridge Wells on Sunday last. The deceased officer was the husband of Mr. Smith's eldest daughter.

Mr. Charles Alfred Jackson, a retired stockbroker, living at Brighton, obtained a divorce yesterday by reason of the misconduct of his wife with Mr. George Roberts, also of Brighton, with whom the respondent had eloped. Mrs. Jackson, it was stated, had property to the extent of £24,000.

Admiral the Earl Clanwilliam presided yesterday at the annual distribution of prizes at the Royal Naval School, New-cross, and in replying to a vote of thanks expressed his satisfaction with regard to the report of the school by the examiners.

M. Dufeuille's action against the Paris Prefect of Police for the seizure of the circular of the Comte de Paris was called on yesterday before the civil tribunal. The Prefect demurred to the jurisdiction of the court, and the case was postponed till after the vacation.

A supposed French spy has been arrested at Kiel. He gives his name as Ennen, and professes to be an architect from Lorraine. He is, however, supposed to be an officer in the French Navy. Several drawings of fortifications at Kiel were found in his possession.

Thomas Hadds Banks, who had forged the name of his employers, Messrs. Greenwood and Co., to an order for the delivery of £2,000 worth of Chicago stock, and subsequently absconded to Jersey, was sentenced yesterday at the Old Bailey to twelve months' hard labour.

Mr. Campbell-Bannerman, M.P., was the principal speaker at a meeting held in Calne last night, and presided over by Mr. John Fuller, candidate for the division. Mr. Bannerman said there was no mistaking the fact that the Liberals were a vanquished and disparaged party in the House of Commons, but they trusted to the growth of the Home Rule cause in the constituencies.

The death is announced of Sir William C. Sargeaunt, K.C.M.G., which occurred on Tuesday. Sir William, who was in his fifty-ninth year, had been Colonial Secretary in Natal, and for a short time Lieutenant-Governor of St. Vincent, and in 1877 was commissioned by Lord Carnarvon to inquire into and report on the financial condition of the Transvaal.

At a meeting of the London Central Committee in opposition to the Van and Wheel Tax, a resolution has been passed to the effect that the compromise referred to in Mr. Chamberlain's letter contained no material concession, and the committee determined to continue the opposition to the threatened tax by every possible means.

Mrs. Jane Priscilla Labatt, residing in Pimlico, was summoned before Mr. D'Eyncourt at Westminster police-court yesterday for assaulting her servant, Caroline Thompson. There was a cross-summons in the case. The learned magistrate came to the conclusion that the conduct of the servant had been most reprehensible, and fined her 5s. and costs, at the same time dismissing the charge against her mistress.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.)

GREAT FIRE IN AMERICA.

NEW YORK, August 2.—A great fire has occurred at Suffolk, Virginia, seventy-six houses being burned down. The loss is estimated at £100,000.

THE NEW TARIFF BILL.

WASHINGTON, August 2.—Full consideration was given to the new Tariff Bill yesterday by the Republican members of the Finance Committee. The measure was in substance completed, although it is not expected to be reported for a week.

NEWS OF EMIN PASHA AND MR. STANLEY.

EMIN ADVANCING AGAINST THE MAHDI.

Important news from the interior has just been brought to Zanzibar by two messengers, who have succeeded in escaping from Uganda. They left the interior at the beginning of April, and report that the situation was then one of great difficulty. Provisions were extremely scarce and difficult to procure, and signs of discouragement had displayed themselves among Emin Pasha's troops. On April 4 Emin Pasha received a summons from the Mahdi, dated from Khartoum, ordering him to surrender, and to disband the troops accompanying him.

The messengers bringing this summons were also the bearers of a letter purporting to be from Lupton Bey, formerly Governor of the Bahr-el-Ghazelle, addressed to Emin Pasha, and declaring that he supported the Mahdi's proposal, which he was represented to state was the only means of saving the lives of the Europeans now in the Mahdi's power, and of preventing the massacre and extermination of Emin Pasha's own troops. The same letter also announced, the statement being confirmed by the declarations of the Mahdi's messengers, that a decisive expedition was being organized against Wadelai. The messengers who bring this intelligence declare that Emin Pasha considered the letter attributed to Lupton Bey to be a forgery fabricated by the Mahdi himself. The statements of the Mahdi's messengers regarding the organization of an expedition against Wadelai were, however, confirmed by Emin Pasha's advanced posts, which signalled from beyond Lado, a port on the White Nile formerly occupied by Emin Pasha, the forward advance of Mahdist scouts, and the appearance of armed vessels on the river at its confluence with the Sobat.

The messengers declare that Emin Pasha had decided, if this information proved accurate, to advance himself with the bulk of his troops up the left bank of the Nile, beyond Lado, in order to try and surprise the enemy, compensatiug by the rapidity of his attack for the lack of provision, from which he was suffering. The position in which Emin Pasha was placed during the month of March was, according to the messengers, a very harassing one, especially in face of the non-arrival up to that time of Mr. Stanley. In the course of the month (March) Emin Pasha did receive some vague and indecisive news of the explorer, which had filtered through from tribe to tribe until it reached the Albert Nyanza.

The reports thus reaching Wadelai were, however, very conflicting. While some declared that Mr. Stanley, after losing a number of men and a large portion of his supplies, was hemmed in by hostile tribes situated between the Maboda country and the Albert Nyanza, other rumours were to the effect that the expedition had been attacked by the tribes of the Matongora-Mino district, and after several conflicts had diverted its course in an unknown direction.

THE ELEPHANT STAMPEDE AT MUNICH.

FOUR PERSONS KILLED AND MANY INJURED.

Only three grown-up persons and a child were killed by the accident at Munich on Tuesday, of which we gave some account yesterday. But twenty persons were severely hurt, whilst the number of slight injuries is very large. Most of the harm done was due to the fright of the crowd, and not to the wildness of the elephants. It was evident that the eight elephants were anxious to get out of the way of the terrified people. A soldier who confronted them with a drawn sword was quietly lifted by the trunk of one animal and placed aside, without being hurt. The elephants broke open the great doors of the Mint, and went up the broad stairs. They also destroyed the doors of the Court Theatre. When they had reached the other end of the town, spreading confusion and terror wherever they went, they could not find their way out of the courtyard of a suburban theatre, and demolished a small house in order to get away. The first elephant put his foot through the door, but the floor broke through, and he fell with his forelegs into the cellar. The second followed him, and, struggling through, carried off the roof on his back. Two ladies were killed. One was trampled to death, and the other died from fright. The child was trampled to death not by the animals but by the panic-stricken crowd.

SINGULAR DEMANDS OF THE BELLOVA BRIGANDS.

According to a telegram from Philippopolis, the brigands who carried off Messrs. Ländler and Binder from Bellova, have been again pursued by the military, and have fled into the remoter mountains. At the instigation of the Austro-Hungarian Consul, the pursuit has now ceased, lest it should endanger the lives of the captives. Herr Ländler's brother-in-law has written to Vienna, stating that the ransom asked by the brigands is £1,300 Turkish for Herr Ländler, and £1,000 Turkish for Herr Binder. The brigands also demand six Martini rifles, ammunition, shirts, perfumed soaps, embroidered stockings, meerschaum pipes, and other articles. The relatives of the prisoners have purchased the rifles, but the Bulgarian Government has prohibited their delivery, and stops all messengers conveying weapons to the brigands. Herr Ländler has written to his wife, who is in Philippopolis, stating that the brigands informed him that his capture was made in revenge for his having thwarted their plans some time ago, when they had arranged for the capture of a railway commission from Constantinople, which included several high functionaries. This scheme they declare would have succeeded had not Herr Ländler arranged for the commission making their visit a week earlier than was expected.

THE PANAMA CANAL TO BE OPENED IN 1890.

M. de Lesseps presided yesterday at the general meeting of shareholders of the Panama Canal Company, and gave an account of the present state of the Canal works as well as of the financial position of the company. He said that the board of directors pledged itself to open the Canal for navigation in 1890, a statement which was much applauded by those present. After some requests for explanations by a number of shareholders, the president's report was unanimously adopted, together with a resolution approving the accounts. The meeting separated amid cries of "Long live M. de Lesseps!"

AN O'CONNELL MEMORIAL CHURCH.

SPEECH BY ARCHBISHOP CROKE.

The foundation-stone of an O'Connell memorial church was laid at Cahirsiveen yesterday by the Archbishop of the diocese. His Grace afterwards made a speech in which he recounted the services of Daniel O'Connell to Ireland, and the approbation and encouragement of his work given by the Pope. His Grace praised the constitutional agitation which O'Connell had instituted, and gloried that the present Irish party carried it on so well. He deeply regretted the recent outrages in Kerry and denounced them as playing into the hands of the enemies of Home Rule. He emphatically denied that the Nationalists were Separatists, and boldly averred that Ireland was better politically, religiously, morally, and commercially under the English connection than it would be under any other Power on earth. After paying a tribute to Canon Brosnan, who erected the church, the Archbishop asked a blessing on the work, and joined with the blessing the words "God save Ireland."

THE SUNDAY OPENING OF THE PEOPLE'S PALACE.

When the question of the Sunday opening of the palace was raised some time ago, steps were taken by the National Sunday League to obtain the opinion of residents in the locality upon the matter, and as the result 55,717 signatures of persons in favour of the Sunday opening of the palace were obtained. The trustees have been informed of this, and Sir Edmund Currie, in a letter to the secretary of the League, states that the trustees have noted the fact above referred to. According to a statement made by the opponents of the Sunday opening only 20,000 signatures were obtained by them.

POSTAL SERVICE ON BANK HOLIDAY.

Official notice is given that the General Post Office and the various district and branch post-offices in the metropolis and those receiving offices from which telegrams are delivered will, with certain exceptions, be open on Monday next, for the sale of stamps, registration of letters, issue and payment of postal orders, receipt of parcels, and for telegraph business. Money orders and savings-bank business will, however, be entirely suspended. In some instances the hours of business will be curtailed, but at offices so affected a notice giving particulars will be exhibited. The first morning delivery in London and the suburbs will be the only one throughout the day. The Scotch, Irish, and foreign and colonial day and night mails and the provincial night mails will be forwarded as usual, but there will be no other despatches.

THE CONVICT JACKSON.

The petition for the commutation of the capital sentence passed upon Jackson for the murder of Assistant Warder Webb has, it is stated, been signed by fully 16,000 persons. It is intended to lay the petition before the Home Secretary to-day. The father of the prisoner had an interview yesterday with his unhappy son.

MAHOMET ON THE STAGE.

Among the winter novelties at the Comédie Française, writes the Paris correspondent of the *Chronicle*, will be a remarkable drama entitled "Mahomet." The author, M. Henri de Bornier, has taken the youth of the prophet, including the period of hesitation and ambition, when Mahomet was being urged by the monk Georgios to consecrate his energies to the spread of Christianity. The sequel, in which the restless prophet resolves to launch a new religious system, is, it appears, admirably portrayed by the author. The Mahomet of the house of Molière will be M. Mounet-Sully. Mdlle. Bartet and Mdlle. Dudlay will play important parts in the new piece, which will doubtless be one of the chief dramatic events of the winter season.

THE MAUSOLEUM AT THE EMPEROR FREDERICK'S TOMB.

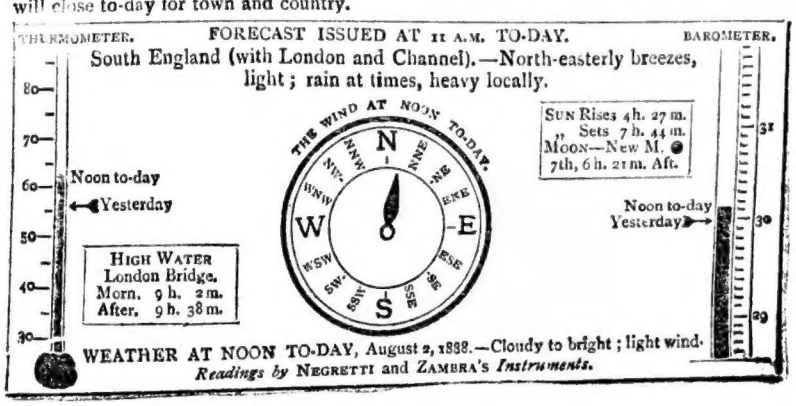
The widowed Empress Victoria has, it is said, singled out the Church of the Holy Sepulchre at Innichen, in the Tyrol, as the model of the mausoleum to be built over the tomb of the late Emperor Frederick. Innichen, a quaint old market town, is close to the world-famed Ampezzo valley, and during the visit of the Imperial pair to the district last year the Empress, then Crown Princess, made a sketch of the venerable fane. At the express wish of the Empress, Baron Schmidt, the well-known Austrian architect, is making plans of the church.

COMMERCIAL NOTICES.

The prospectus of the Metropolitan Electric Supply Company (Limited) has appeared In it the directors invite subscriptions for 43,900 ordinary shares of £10 each, being a portion of the share capital, the total of which is £500,000. More than half of the issue will, it is stated, be applied for by some of the directors and their friends interested in the establishment of the company, but without their being entitled to any preference of allotment. The board is composed of gentlemen who have been associated with the progressive development of electrical science, and who were pioneers of the submarine telegraph. Works will at once be constructed, and electricity supplied to the parishes of St. James's, Westminster (Piccadilly), and St. Martin's-in-the-Fields; while notice has been served upon various other localities of the intention of the company to apply for provisional orders. An agreement has been entered into for the purchase of the undertaking of the Whitehall Electric Supply Company (Limited), including the works now approaching completion in Whitehall-avenue, and contracts for lighting the Hotel Victoria, &c. The subscription list will open and close to-morrow (Friday).

The National Provincial Bank of England (Limited) invite tenders on the 8th inst. for an issue of £117,000 Three per Cent. stock of the Weymouth and Melcombe Regis Corporation at the minimum price of £94 per cent. Interest will be payable half-yearly, the first dividend being due January 1, 1889. The stock will be redeemable at par on and after March 25, 1918.

The list of subscriptions for shares in the Brewers' Investment Corporation (Limited) will close to-day for town and country.



FOURTH EDITION.

EVOLUTION EXTRAORDINARY.

HOW THE SPECIAL COMMISSION BILL HAS GROWN.

A RECORD OF MINISTERIAL UTTERANCES.

In view of the latest ministerial declaration as to the object and purpose of the Members of Parliament (Charges and Allegations) Bill, it may be useful to print as a consecutive narrative the various stages in the evolution of this Special Commission Bill :—

EVERY FACILITY FOR INVESTIGATION.

On the motion of Sir C. Lewis, that the article in the *Times* of May 2, 1887, headed "Parnellism and Crime," constitutes a breach of privilege, Mr. W. H. Smith said, May 4, that the Government "acknowledging the claims of the hon. gentlemen below the gangway to have the matter fully and impartially investigated, it is the duty of the House and the duty of the Government to afford them every possible facility for that investigation. We propose that the Attorney-General, coupled with any Queen's Counsel they may select, shall be instructed to prosecute the parties."

MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT ONLY.

Mr. W. H. Smith, in rejecting the Select Committee :—"They are willing to propose to Parliament to pass an Act appointing a Commission, which should consist wholly, or mainly, of judges, with full powers, as in the case of other statutable Commissions, to inquire into the allegations and charges made against members of Parliament by the defendants in the recent action of O'Donnell *v.* Walter."—July 12, 1888. "If hon. gentlemen are prepared to accept the offer which has been made, I am prepared to put on the notice paper a motion for leave to bring in a bill with reference to the judges."

MR. PARNELL TO ACCEPT THE PROPOSAL.

In answer to Mr. Parnell, Mr. W. H. Smith said :—"The bill of which I have given notice is a bill to be introduced in accordance with the offer that I made to the hon. gentleman and those who are associated with him. It is for him to say whether he will accept the proposal of the Government. We do not desire to debate this proposal, and I have therefore put it in this position that it may be accepted or rejected by the hon. gentleman."—July 16.

WILL PROSECUTE AND WILL NOT.

1. We propose "that the Attorney-General, coupled with any Queen's counsel they (the Irish members) may select, shall be instructed to prosecute the parties"—May 2, 1887.

2. "Certainly the Government is not the prosecutor in this case."—Mr. W. H. Smith, July 23, 1888.

3. "Besides that, inasmuch as the Attorney-General, as counsel for the *Times*, may have acquired information relative to the matters in question, it would of course be unsuitable that he should appear as counsel for the Irish members."—W. H. Smith, July 19.

FIRST SIGHT OF "AND OTHERS."

After an interview with Mr. Walter and Mr. Buckle, of the *Times*, Mr. W. H. Smith moved for leave to introduce a bill "to constitute a Special Commission to inquire into the charges and allegations made against certain members of Parliament and other persons by the defendants in the recent trial of an action entitled O'Donnell *v.* Walter."—July 16.

"Foul charges against himself and his friends."—Ditto.

"AND OTHERS"—MAGNIFIED!

The Solicitor-General for Scotland : "The right hon. member for Midlothian has never got rid of the idea that this inquiry is an entirely domestic one for the House of Commons, and of a purely disciplinary character. We completely dispute that view, because we regard the question as involving matter far above the individual conduct or characters of members of the House of Commons—it is one affecting the State—in the interest which it has in clearing political associations from complicity with the gross forms of crime."—July 24.

TEMPORARY RETURN TO PRIMARY POSITION.

Mr. W. H. Smith : "An alternative to that asked for by the member for Cork—namely, a Committee of this House."—July 23. "We do not think we should be acting in fairness to those gentlemen accused by or concerned in these charges if we failed to afford them the most full and complete inquiry by a judicial tribunal."—July 23. "No one will rejoice more than I shall if the result of such inquiry shall be to clear hon. gentlemen opposite."—July 23.

METAMORPHOSIS COMPLETE.

"He must challenge the foundation of the argument—that the primary object of that bill was to enable an inquiry to be made into the conduct of members of Parliament : the primary object of the bill was to investigate charges . . . a catalogue of melancholy and disgraceful crimes."—Mr. Matthews, August 1.

"The Government had not proposed this bill with the object of providing gentlemen with one tribunal after their rejection of another, and there had never been any wavering in the matter."—Mr. Balfour, August 1. "I did not say 'political organization.'"—Mr. Matthews, August 2. "The notice given by his right hon. friend was, 'A bill to constitute a Special Commission to inquire into the charges and allegations made against certain members,' 'and other persons,' &c."—Mr. Matthews, August 1.

THE WALTHAMSTOW MYSTERY.—DR. TIDY'S OPINION.

Dr. Tidy, to whom have been forwarded the contents of the stomach of Mrs. French, who died at Walthamstow on the 21st ult. from alleged chloroform poisoning, is making exhaustive experiments, and it is stated that, as a result of his tests, he has come to the conclusion that a second poison had been taken by, or administered to the deceased.

WRETCHED WEATHER AT THE CAPE.

Private advices from Cape Town, South Africa, dated July 10, state that the weather there is as bad as it is in England. It has been raining incessantly, with only about a dozen fine days, for the last three months. Such weather has not been known for over forty years.

DISASTROUS FIRE AT THE WEST-END.

SHOCKING DEATH OF AN OLD LADY.

ANOTHER FIRE-ESCAPE FAILURE.

At 8.15 this morning a fire broke out in Wigmore-street, Cavendish-square. The house got well alight before the fire-engines arrived. The adjoining house, No. 13, and the Alperton Dairy, No. 1, Wimpole-street, also caught fire. Mrs. Hardy, an old lady of eighty years of age, was burned to death. She was in a room at the rear of the premises, and that fact was well known to some of the residents in the neighbourhood. The attention of the police and firemen were called to it, and a vigorous attempt was made to reach her from Wimpole-street. The fire, however, had obtained a complete hold, and the efforts of the men were frustrated for a considerable time, ultimately an entrance was gained from the front premises, and Mrs. Hardy was found lying dead, her body being fearfully charred. A fire-escape was sent for after the engines had arrived on the spot, but could not be used owing to the flames completely enveloping the front of the building. The fire broke out at the establishment of Messrs. Barclay and Sons, paraffin lamp manufacturers, and the cause of its origin has not yet been discovered. The flames were not extinguished until shortly before ten o'clock.

A later account says :—"When the fire broke out five girls were sleeping on the premises above Messrs. Barclay's shop, occupied by Mr. Elise Goldup, Court glover, and the flames rapidly passed up the stairs and cut off their means of escape. Ready assistance was at hand, and they were assisted safely into the street without sustaining much injury. A nurse named Bayley was in attendance on Mrs. Hardy, who was an invalid in an upper room of the building, and while the fire was nearly at its height she came to the window and shouted for assistance for herself and Mrs. Hardy. A sheet was brought to the back of the building, and by its assistance she succeeded in reaching the ground ; but in her fall she fractured one of the bones of her leg. Another woman named Phillips was also in the building at the time of the fire, and in making her escape she sustained a fracture of the ankle. The two women were removed to the Middlesex Hospital, where they are now patients. The body of Mrs. Hardy was removed to the Marylebone mortuary.

Strong conflicting opinions are being expressed upon the question as to whether the fire-escape would have been of any use had it got there earlier. But there undoubtedly was some delay in it getting there, owing to the men changing duty at the time.

Another correspondent writes :—Mrs. Phillips, who was not dressed, found herself utterly unable to reach the street by the ordinary means, and rushed to the second-floor front window. For some moments she frantically appealed for help, and some men in the street held out a tarpaulin and told her to jump. This she did, and in her fall struck against the first floor parapet and turned completely over, but fortunately fell into the tarpaulin. She, however, has, by striking on the parapet, received some injuries to her leg, and has been removed to the Middlesex Hospital. Mrs. Hardy also made her way to the same window, and hung there until the flames actually burned her arm. Just in time a Mr. Shaw ran to the scene with a ladder, and rescued the unfortunate woman amid cheers from the crowd. In the meantime other exciting scenes were in progress at the back of the house, for Miss Law, also finding her escape cut out off by the staircase, got out of the back window with Nurse Baylis, and at last succeeded in attracting the attention of the next-door neighbour, Mr. Maymer. He threw a sheet to her to hang by, and managed to get her out of danger by this means. Nurse Baylis essayed a similar escape, and in doing so fell through a skylight and broke her ankle. Old Mrs. Hardy, who was bedridden and very ill, was unable to move from her bed, and was burned to death.

THE "DEEPEST INFAMY" OF THE "TIMES."

HOW THE "TIMES" ANSWERS MR. MORLEY.

The *Times* surpasses itself this morning. As reported in the later editions of our last issue, Mr. John Redmond, in the House of Commons yesterday, complained that in the face of the fact that on the day following (Sunday) the Phœnix Park murders, he peremptorily adjourned a Manchester Free Trade Hall meeting which he had been under engagement to address, proposed a resolution denouncing in the strongest terms the atrocious murder of Lord Frederick Cavendish [he had not heard at the time of the attack upon Mr. Burke], and expressed his opinion that under no conceivable circumstances could assassination be tolerated, the *Times* on the Monday deliberately accused him of having omitted any mention of Mr. Burke's murder because he approved of it, refused to insert a letter which he immediately wrote explaining the facts, omitted from the report of a speech he directly afterwards made in the House of Commons all reference to the explanation he offered upon the *Times* libel, and yet repeated the stale slander in the trial of the "O'Donnell *v.* Walter and another" action.

Mr. John Morley said if this story were true, it loaded the *Times* newspaper and its conductors with something which he, as an experienced journalist, did not hesitate to call the deepest infamy. He added—"Of course the *Times* and its conductors might have some explanation to give. The hon. and learned member might or might not have left out some link in the story, but, if true, it was a charge which the *Times* ought not to lose one moment in answering and answering fully."

The *Times* this morning prints Mr. Redmond's complaint in its report of the parliamentary debates ; but otherwise attempts neither explanation nor apology. Here is all that it says in its leading columns :—"This [the endeavour to convict the Government of a change of front over the Parnell Bill] and other groundless accusations have afforded Mr. Parnell, Mr. T. Healy, Mr. Sexton, Mr. T. P. O'Connor, and the rest the opportunity to pour out a flood of blackguardism—we can call it by no other name—on the *Times* and the persons responsible for its conduct, which we venture to say is absolutely without parallel in parliamentary history. We are completely indifferent to abuse, calumny, and mendacious charges from that quarter, and we are quite sure that public opinion will take the just measure of the men who resort to these weapons. But, for the honour of public life in England, it is to be deplored that Mr. Gladstone as well as Sir William Harcourt entered into a competition with the foul-mouthed oratory of their present allies below the gangway. Still more scandalous is it that Mr. Morley should dare to accuse this journal of the 'deepest infamy' on the unsupported testimony, which he has taken no pains to sift, of one of his reckless Irish allies. The stuff which is held to be good enough to furnish forth the speeches of these statesmen with their facts, their arguments, their taunts, and their calumnies would not be listened to by any decent people if it were bawled about the streets by the sort of people who obtain a hearing because they are members of the House of Commons." That is all.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)

MR. PARNELL'S CHARGES AGAINST MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

EGAN VOLUNTEERS TO OBTAIN EVIDENCE.

NEW YORK, August 2.—At an interview Mr. Patrick Egan has stated that he would meet any fair and impartial inquiry into the *Times* letters, which he described as forgeries. He said he was aware that Mr. Chamberlain had been telling Cabinet secrets to the Nationalists with the object of undermining Mr. Gladstone as well as Mr. Parnell and himself in order to induce other Irishmen to come forward and split the party. These revelations were of importance to the Nationalists from time to time. If Mr. Chamberlain would demand an inquiry Mr. Egan said he knew where to obtain evidence to sustain Mr. Parnell's charges.

COLLAPSE OF A PILLAR IN SEVILLE CATHEDRAL.

SEVILLE, August 1.—One of the pillars of the cathedral in this city gave way to day, causing a portion of the roof of the nave to fall in, whereby the organ was destroyed and other damage done. Nobody was injured. The affair has caused great sensation here.

THE CASE OF MRS. GORDON BAILLIE.

In a Divisional Court of Queen's Bench, before the Lord Chief Justice and Mr. Justice Denman, Mr. Mead showed cause against the granting of a writ of habeas corpus to bring up Annie Frost, otherwise Mrs. Gordon Baillie, that she might be admitted to bail. The prisoner had been committed for trial on three charges of conspiracy to obtain money. The learned counsel pointed out that the prisoner was brought before the Recorder of the City of London. The trial was postponed, and leave had been obtained under the Vexatious Indictments Act to include other charges of obtaining money by false pretences, which was an offence in the same category as felony, in which the Recorder might refuse bail. The court held that they were bound under the Habeas Corpus Act to grant the writ. The rule was accordingly made absolute, and made returnable for Monday next, when it was intimated that the court might exercise its discretion as to the amount of bail.

THE BISHOPS AT YORK.

This morning some sixty colonial and American Bishops, who were present yesterday at the reopening of the chapel of Bishop Auckland Castle and at a garden party, arrived at York and were conducted over the Minster by the Dean, who subsequently entertained them at luncheon. They will attend the afternoon service in the Minster to-day and dine with the Archbishop and Mrs. Thomson to-night at Bishopthorpe.

SHAFTESBURY MEMORIAL HALL.

Yesterday afternoon the ceremony of laying four foundations of a Shaftesbury Memorial Mission-hall took place on a site in Union-street, Borough, leased from the Ecclesiastical Commissioners. The hall, which is to be erected at a cost of £800, is intended to extend and carry on the work of the London City Mission, which was begun in this district twelve years ago. The ceremony of yesterday afternoon was presided over by Mr. F. A. Bevan, treasurer of the London City Mission. The four stones, which were placed so as to appear under four windows in the front of the hall, were laid by Mrs. F. A. Bevan, Miss M. Guerrier, Mr. R. K. Causton, M.P., and Mr. C. W. Radcliffe Cooke, M.P., the two latter gentlemen subsequently moving and seconding a resolution recognising the great benefit of such mission halls for the classes for whom they were intended. Subscriptions amounting to nearly £600 out of the £800 required were announced, and a special fund was set on foot for furnishing the new building.

THE REGENT'S PARK MURDER.

The trial of the eight young fellows charged with the murder of the young man Rumbold, in Regent's Park, on the night of the 24th of May, is being continued to-day at the Old Bailey, before Mr. Justice Hawkins. The young woman Elizabeth Lee, who was walking out with Rumbold at the time, gave evidence this afternoon. She said as they were proceeding along one of the pathways in the park she saw several young men. They came in front of witness and deceased. One of them said, "Are you Mason?" Deceased said, "I don't know what you mean." Four others said, "That's him." One took Rumbold by the neck and struck him, and ran away, all the others following. Blood immediately began to flow from Rumbold, who said, "Call a cab, I am stabbed."

BEATING THE RECORD BY RAIL.

While the *City of New York* is endeavouring to beat the record at sea, the home railway companies are doing their utmost with safety to accelerate fast travelling on land. Yesterday a Great Northern train left King's-cross at ten o'clock and reached Edinburgh at three minutes to six, accomplishing the journey in less than the promised eight hours.

In the House of Commons to-day the principal business will be the Committee on the Parnell Commission Bill. At the commencement of public business Mr. W. H. Smith will move the suspension of the twelve o'clock rule, and will then submit a resolution directing the Chairman at one o'clock to put from the Chair all the remaining amendments and clauses of the Parnell Commission Bill which have not at that time been disposed of.

To-morrow Mr. Gladstone will go on a visit to Lord Spencer's sister, Lady Sarah Spencer, at Berkhampstead, Hertfordshire.

Hon. J. G. Blaine, Mrs. Blaine, and daughters were among the passengers by the new Inman steamer *City of New York*, which left Liverpool yesterday for New York.

A Boulogne fisherman, named Penritte, of the smack *St. Pierre* was fined £20 this morning for fishing within the three-mile limit at Folkestone.

The Richmond police incline to believe that their comrade Ellis met with his death through misadventure.

The Dean of Westminster has left England on a sea voyage of some weeks' duration. Communications respecting the Abbey should be addressed to the Canon in residence.

The Dean of Chichester had, it was stated yesterday, passed a restless night, and was gradually growing weaker.

Mr. Henry O. Forbes, the New Guinea explorer, author of "The Naturalist in the Malay Archipelago," has been selected by the London Commission to succeed the late Sir Julius von Haast as director of the Canterbury Museum, New Zealand.

THE GREAT WESTERN RAILWAY DIVIDEND.

The directors of the Great Western Railway Company have declared a dividend for the past half-year at the rate of 4½ per cent. per annum, carrying forward £11,200. For the first half of 1887 the distribution was at the rate of 4¼ per cent., and £11,000 was carried forward.

THIS DAY'S MONEY MARKET.

Half-past One.

BANK RATE 2½ PER CENT.—STOCK MARKETS QUIET AND FEATURELESS.

The Bank of England directors at their meeting this morning decided to make no alteration in the official minimum, which therefore remains at 2½ per cent., it having stood at that figure since the 7th June. An advance in the Bank rate had been looked for in some quarters, and a good deal of discount business yesterday and again at the opening of the market this morning was arranged "subject." The rate for three months' bank paper may be called 2 to 2⅛ per cent. The supply of loanable capital continues quite sufficient for all requirements; but there is a fairly good demand, and the charge for short loans is again about 1 per cent. The discount market is still agitated by fears of large withdrawals of gold from the Bank for the Argentine Republic.

There is again a small attendance of members on the Stock Exchange, and the chief characteristic of markets is absence of business. Consols are dull, owing to the advancing tendency of money rates in the open market, and in the Home Railway department the variations are somewhat irregular. Chatham descriptions are firm, also Caledonian, and the Deferred Stocks of the Southern lines, the latter being bought on the improvement in the weather. The announcement of the Great Western dividend has had no appreciable effect on the market. Foreign Government Bonds are inactive, and the lifelessness of this department may be judged from the fact that only in two or three instances do prices show any change compared with last night. American Railroads are mostly higher, though in some cases a decline is marked. The Vanderbilt stocks are especially strong, while Missouri, Kansas, and Texas shares have given way. Grand Trunk of Canada stocks are dull, although the traffic is quite as good as was expected. The receipts on the main line show a reduction of £5,158, on the Chicago and Grand Trunk of £2,685, and on the Detroit section of £964, thus making a total falling off on the combined system of £8,107. Mexican Railway issues are the turn harder. Virginia Funded Bonds show a further advance. Indian Gold Mining shares are neglected.

The following are the latest changes compared with last night's closing:—

In Home Railways.—*Advanced:* Chatham Ordinary ⅜, the Preference ¼. South Eastern Deferred ¼, Caledonian and Brighton Deferred ⅛. *Receded:* Great Western, North Western, Midland and North British ⅛.

Among Foreign Stocks.—*Risen:* Russian 1873 ⅛, and Spanish Four per Cents. 1.16.

American Railroads.—*Risen:* Lake Shore ⅞, New York Central ½, Mexican Central Bonds ¼, Illinois Central ¼, Central Pacific, Ontario, Pennsylvania shares, and Wabash Preference ⅛. *Fallen:* Missouri, Kansas, and Texas ¼, Denver Preference ⅜, the Ordinary ½, Milwaukee and St. Paul, Northern Pacific Preference, Union Pacific, Wabash Mortgage ¼, and Norfolk Western Preference ⅛.

As regards Canadian and Foreign Railways.—*Higher:* Mexican Ordinary ⅛, and South Austrian shares 1-16. *Fallen:* Grand Trunk First Preference ½, the Second Preference and Guaranteed ¼, the Third Preference ⅛ and the Ordinary 1-16.

Virginia Funded Bonds are up 2, Namaqua Copper ½, Spratt's ½, Hudson's Bay and Suez Canal ¼ Allsopp and Hotchkiss ⅛; but Guinness Brewery stock is down 1¼, and Rio Tinto shares 1-16.

The letters of allotment in the Woodite Company (Limited) have been posted.

The traffic receipts of the London General Omnibus Company for the past week were £13,456 against £14,015. Those of the London Road Car Company amounted to £2,639 against £2,138.

LIVERPOOL COTTON MARKET.—There is a fair business and prices are very steady. Sales, 10,000 bales. Futures have hardened since the opening, and are now firm at one point advance; August, 34.

The following are this day's 1 o'clock prices of the principal Stocks and Shares—

BRITISH FUNDS, ETC.			Brighton (Ordinary)	133	41 xd	London and County	½ 7½
Consols	100⅛	⅛	Do. A	122¼	3	Union of London	38⅝ 9½
New Consols 2¾	99⅝	⅛	Chatham (Ordinary)	21⅜	⅜	London and West	66 7 xd
Reduced 3 p. c.	101	¼	Do. Preference	103¼	⅛	London Joint Stock	39 40 xd
Local Loans Stock	103¼	¼	North Western	170⅜	⅜	Nat. Prov. of Eng.	44 4
New 2½ per Cents	92	½	South Western	138⅛	9½	Stand. Bnk. S. Afric	40⅛ 7½
Indian 3½ per Cent	105¼	6¼	Manchester & Sheff.	67	9	MINES.	
Do. 4½ p.c. Rup.	70	½	Do. A	34⅜	5⅛	Indian Consolidated	5 16 7 18
Egyptian Guar.	102	½	Met. Consolidated	74⅛	5¼	Mysore Shares	3¼ ⅛
Mct. Bd. Wks. 4½	113	⅛	Do. Land Stock	71	2	Oooregums	1 1 15 3 16
Do. 3 p.c. Scrip	103¼	4	Do. District	85⅛	⅜	Cape Copper	3⅜ ⅛
Birmingham Crp. Stk	109½	10	Midland	138¼	⅛	Namaqua	3⅜ ⅛
Liverpool	110¼	11¼	North British	113¼	14	Mason and Barry	9 ⅛
FOREIGN STOCKS			North Eastern	157⅛	⅜	Rio Tinto	19⅛ ¾
Argentine 6 p. c.	103	5	North Stafford	107	9	Montana £1 shares	1½ ⅛
Do. Hard Dols.	69½	70½	South Eastern	123	30 xd	De Beers	25 ⅛
Do. Treasury	97½	8¼	Do. Deferred	103¼	⅛	Kimberley Cent.	27 1⅛
Austrian Gold	90	2	FOREIGN RAILWAYS.			TELEGRAPHS AND TELEPHONES.	
Do. Silver	65	7	Canada Pacific	53½	⅞ xd	Anglo-American	4¼ 2
Brazilian 1875	102½	3⅛	Can. Pacific Shares	39⅝	¾	Do. Pref.	03½ 9½
B. Ayres 6, p. c.	102	4	Chic. Mil. and St. P.	71⅛	¾	Direct Unit. States	9⅛ ⅜
Do. Cedulas	63	⅛	Denver & R. Grande	19⅛	⅜	Eastern	12 ¼
Chilian 4½ p.c. 1886	100	2	Do. Pref.	49¼	50	Ditto Extension	12⅞ 13⅛
Costa Rica A	87⅛	8¼	Illinois Shares	124½	5½	United Telephone	13⅛ ¼
Do. B	85	7	Lake Shore	96⅞	7⅛	Globe Teleg. Trust	6¼ 7
Egypt. State Dom	101⅜	2	Ohio & Mississippi	24¼	¼	TRAMWAYS, ETC.	
Do. Unified	83⅛	¼	Louisand Nashville	62⅝	⅜	London Gen. Om.	211 16
Do. Preference	101¼	2	Mex. Cen. Bonds	63¼	9¼	London Street	13 15
Do. Daira Sanieh	73¼	9	Do. Nat. "A"	61	2	London Tramway	14 15 xd
French 3 p.c. Rnts	82 4	¼	Miss. Kan. & Texas	15	⅛	North Metropolitan	13⅛ 14
Do. 4½ p.c. Rnts.	105	½	N. Y. Cen. Shares	109¼	⅛	WATERWORKS	
Greek 5 p.c. 1881	73¼	4¼	New York Ontario	16¾	17	Chelsea Waterworks	251 6
Hung. Gold Rents	82⅛	⅜	Erie Shares	27¼	8	East London	195 200
Italian	93⅛	⅝	Do. Sec. Mort.	100⅛	1	Grand Junction	123 8
Mexican Converted	38½	¼	Norfolk & West. Pref.	51¼	2¼	Kent	270 5
Peruvian 5 p.c. '72	13¼	⅜	N. Y. P. & O. 1st Mt.	38⅛	⅜	Lambeth	255 60
Do. 6 p.c.	15⅝	⅜	North. Pacific Pref.	57¼	8¼	New River, New	343 8 xd
Portuguese	63⅜	⅝	Pennsylvania Sh.	55¼	½	Sthwk. & Vauxhall	101 6
Russian 1873	97¼	8	Philad. Read. Sh.	32⅜	⅜	W. Middlesex	254 9
Spanish 4 p. c.	72 5 16	7 16	Union Pacific Shares	61⅜	⅝	GAS AND ELECTRIC LIGHT.	
Turkish 1865	99	101	Wabash Preferred	26⅛	7	Gaslight & Coke A	253 9
Group 1	24	5	Do. Gen. Mort.	45	½	Imp. Continental	203 9
Group 2	24⅜	⅜	Grand Trunk Sh.	10	⅛	South Metropolitan	319 24
Groups 3 and 4	14⅜	½	Do. First Pref.	58	¼	Brush Elec Lt (£10)	3 ⅛
4½ p. c. 1871	85¼	6¼	Do. Second Pref.	40	½	MISCELLANEOUS.	
5 p.c. Defence	05¼	6¼	Do. Third Pref.	22½	¾	Allsopp	9⅛ ⅞
5 p.c. Priority	82	3	Do. Guaranteed	66⅛	7	Guinness and Co.	320 2½
Uruguay Unified	71¼	¾	Mexican Ordinary	46¼	7	Hotchkiss	11½ ¾
Virginia Funded	43	4	Do First Pref	119⅞	20½	Bryant and May	13 ¼
U.S. 4½ p.c.	109	⅛	Ob. do. and Pref	78¼	9¼	Spratt's Patent	10⅛ ⅜
BRITISH RAILWAYS.			Lombardo-Venetian	8⅛	⅜	P. and O. Steam	62 4
Caledonian	105¼	6¼	Varna 3 per Cent	6⅛	4⅜	Royal Mail Steam	59 61
Great Eastern	67¼	⅛ xd	Nitrate Railway	25	¼	Nat. Discount Co.	11 ⅛ xd
Great Northern	117½	18½	BANKS.			Hudson's Bay	19¼ 20
Ditto A	100	1	Alliance Bank	13	½ xd	Suez Canal	85 ⅛
Great Western	146⅛	⅜	City Bank	90	1 xd	E. & W. Ind. Docks	24 6
Hull and Barnsley	30½	1	Consolidated Bank	7⅛	8¼ xd	London and St. Katharine	33 40
Lanc. and York.	117½	18⅛	Imperial Ottoman	10⅜	⅛		

A DESCENT UPON THE RADICAL UNIONIST MECCA

MR. GLADSTONE AND HIS LIEUTENANTS GOING TO BIRMINGHAM.

The London correspondent of the *Birmingham Post* says:—The resolve of the executive of the National Liberal Federation to invite Mr. Gladstone and the chief among his colleagues to visit Birmingham upon the occasion of the customary annual gathering in October, which was unanimously taken at a meeting at the National Liberal Club yesterday afternoon, evidently gave great satisfaction to Gladstonian Liberal members generally when it became known in the lobby shortly before the rising of the House. The ex-Premier will be accompanied by Sir William Harcourt and Mr. John Morley, as well as, most probably, by Mr. Childers, Mr. Shaw Lefevre, and Sir George Trevelyan; and it is not unlikely that either Lord Rosebery or Lord Spencer will be of the party. No stone, it may be depended, will be left unturned to give éclat to the gathering, for Birmingham is looked upon by the Gladstonian Liberals and the Nationalists as the central citadel, if not the very Mecca, of Liberal Unionism; and, as one of the leading Irish members remarked only a short time since, they believe that if they can make any appreciable effect upon your town they can sweep the country.

KILLING NO MURDER

WHEN A WIFE KILLS HER HUSBAND.

At Chester, on Saturday, before Mr. Justice Field, Mary Ellen Coleman was charged with the manslaughter of her husband, John Coleman, at Stockport, on the 17th of April last, and pleaded "Guilty" to the charge. From the statement made by the prisoner's counsel it appeared that the deceased man had been in the habit of brutally ill-treating the prisoner, and on the day of the fatal blow the deceased had been drinking heavily, and the prisoner endeavoured to get him home from a public-house. While doing so he kicked her violently in the chest. She retreated into another room, and the deceased followed her and sat down on a chair by the fire, leaning down to where a poker was lying. This the prisoner seized, and dealt the deceased a blow, not of a violent nature, on the side of the head, and from the effect of this blow the deceased died four days afterwards. His lordship . . . sentenced the prisoner to one day's imprisonment.

WHEN A HUSBAND KILLS HIS WIFE.

The trial of Neale, the draper charged with the manslaughter of his wife, took place at Leeds assizes. His wife had committed adultery with a man named Black, and Crown Prosecutor Mr. Stansfeld declared to the jury that "speaking not as a counsel for the Crown, but as a man, he should have acted as the prisoner at the bar had done." The presiding judge, Mr. Justice Smith, said the prisoner had done "that which was proper" in kicking the man Black downstairs; and went on to suggest that in a paroxysm of rage, induced by the action of Black, the prisoner had turned upon his wife and inflicted upon her the injuries of which she died. "There were," Mr. Justice Smith continued, "manslaughters and manslaughters," and as the prisoner at the bar had been in prison awaiting trial for two months, his lordship expressed his determination to inflict no further punishment, but ordered him to be imprisoned for one day, which was equivalent to discharging him.

THE DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE ON HIS DEFENCE.

The Duke of Cambridge availed himself of the opportunity afforded by his presence at a Mansion House dinner last night to defend himself from the aspersions cast upon him in relation to the ousting of the volunteers from Wimbledon Common. His Royal Highness said: "From some circumstances which had occurred, it had been put forward to the public—occasionally, he hoped, not generally—that the Commander-in-Chief was not as favourably disposed to the volunteer force as a man in his position ought to be. He could not conceive it possible that any man in the position he filled should not take the same interest in all the forces of which the army was composed in spite of what had been said to the contrary. He considered that every man should be allowed to give his opinion on certain points, and he could not understand why, because a man gave an opinion which was not quite agreeable to some portion of the community, he was therefore assumed to be the enemy of all. That was an absolutely absurd proposal, and he was glad to have the opportunity of saying what he hoped might not be necessary, that there was no man in this country who had always—and especially at the present moment—a higher appreciation of the services of the volunteers than he had.

THE QUEEN AND DR. BARRY.

"Strong influence is," says a London correspondent, "still being brought to bear on Lord Salisbury to make a vacancy by translating the Bishop of Chester or Salisbury to Oxford, and then to give the Metropolitan of Australia the see vacated. It is said the Queen is most anxious that Dr. Barry should not have to return to Sydney. This will not please the High Church or Conservative party, as Dr. Barry was one of four bishops who at the Lambeth Conference just closed voted for allowing Nonconformists in the pulpits of the Church. The other Bishops were those of New York, Minnesota, and Ripon."

PROSPECTS FOR THE "TWELFTH" IN SCOTLAND.

It is reported that although disease prevailed on the lowland moors last year, grouse is now as abundant as in good seasons. Excellent accounts come from districts where the moor fowl was thought to be exterminated. Argyleshire and Buteshire are free from disease, and Aberdeenshire birds are plentiful and in excellent condition. Pheasants and partridges are numerous on the low grounds. Deer, which suffered from the inclemency of the weather, are making flesh rapidly. Covert game are at the average of last year, but hares are scarce.

BISHOP WALSHAM HOW AND MRS. BESANT.

The Bishop of Wakefield, having in a sermon in his cathedral on Sunday expressed his sorrow "that the factory girls of East London should have had as their champion one whose moral teaching he considered in one particular direction most disastrous," has written to the *Yorkshire Post* to say, "I used some very strong language on the spur of the moment, but I feel I was unjust, and I shall be glad if you will allow me to say that I have no reason to doubt that lady's sincere desire to benefit the poor and miserable, and that in her efforts in that direction I can only express my sympathy."

The eminent analyst, ARTHUR HILL HASSALL, M.D., pronounces FRY and SONS PURE CONCENTRATED COCOA to be of *absolute purity* and of the *very finest quality*, and to consist only of the roasted Cocoa bean, possessing the great and important advantages of being nutritious and easily assimilated. Ask your Grocer for a sample and copy of numerous Medical Testimonials.

THE EMIGRATION SCANDALS.

The Committee which is investigating the subject of immigration into the United States has adjourned until Monday. One of the Italian padroni, or "bankers," of New York has been called before it. He reluctantly explained that he collected small sums from his friends as "presents" when he got them work, and that he kept their money on deposit. The investigation has produced a deep impression. The *New York Herald* advises the padroni, or "bankers," who are all thoroughly scared, to migrate speedily to Canada, since the climate of New York is a malarial one, in which they cannot live.

A BRUTAL DOUBLE MURDER.

A shocking crime has just been committed at Cysoing, in the department of the Nord. Two old maids, named Bomart, aged eighty-three and eighty-one respectively, were found murdered yesterday morning in the bed which they jointly occupied, their brains dashed out with a poker, which was lying in a corner of the room covered with blood and white hair. Their brother, an old man of seventy-nine, who lived with them, has been arrested. He denies that he is the murderer, but some of his clothes have been discovered saturated with blood, and his hands and wrists bear the marks of scratches and bruises. The Bomart family was much esteemed at Cysoing.

SEVEN VOLUNTEERS DROWNED.

Nine men belonging to the Merthyr Vale detachment of the 3rd Volunteer Battalion of the Welsh Regiment, who are now in camp at Lavernock, near Cardiff, went out last evening for a row in a small boat. The boat got into a strong current, and was swamped. All its occupants were thrown into the water, but four of them, including the boatman, saved themselves by swimming and clinging to the punt until assistance arrived. The names of the victims are F. James, J. Potter, W. Colston, J. Webber, Simmons, and H. Brown, all living at Merthyr Vale, and Thomas Hughes, of Nelson.

DIAMOND ROBBERY AT BRIGHTON.

A daring robbery was committed yesterday at the Grand Hotel, Brighton, when diamonds valued at £400 were stolen. They were purloined from the room of a lady visitor, who took the precaution when she went out in the morning to lock her door. The thief, however, found the key, gained access, and took a diamond bracelet and other articles of jewellery from a drawer. A visit was also paid to another room, from which several pounds in gold were taken. The thief escaped unseen.

QUATRE BRAS.—Funds have been collected in the Duchy of Brunswick for the erection of a monument on the battlefield of Quatre Bras to the Duke Frederick William of Brunswick, who fell there. The monument is to be unveiled on the 16th of June, 1890, the 75th anniversary of the battle.

RAILWAY EXTENSION IN BURMAH.—The Mandalay Railway is expected to be opened for goods traffic at the end of this month, and for passenger traffic before the expiration of the present year. A large business is looked for, as the railway rates will be considerably lower than those now charged for water carriage.

A MILITIA MAJOR SENT TO PRISON.—William Shalden Smith, recently a major in a militia regiment, was indicted at the Winchester assizes yesterday, before Mr. Baron Huddleston, for misappropriating £11,000 left by an uncle in 1878, and of which he was sole trustee, for the benefit of his son. The defence was that the money had gone for the improvement of the son's property. Prisoner was sentenced to eighteen months' hard labour.

THE NEW VICAR OF HIGHGATE.—The important living of St. Michael's, Highgate, which has for some months past been vacant through the death of the Rev. D. Trinder, has at length been filled by the Bishop of London by the appointment of the Rev. John Marshall Andrews. Mr. Andrews, who was educated at King's College, London, and was ordained in 1853, has been for twenty-five years past vicar of St. Jude's Church, in the Gray's-inn-road. For five years after his ordination he was also curate of that parish.

A BODY RESCUED FROM THE THAMES BY A DOG.—Yesterday afternoon a dog jumped into the Thames near Cleopatra's Needle, in response to a sign from its owner to fetch a stick out of the water. Another object attracted the animal's attention, and in a little time the dog brought to shore the body of a respectably-dressed man, of dark complexion, and apparently between thirty and forty years of age. The body, which has not yet been identified, was conveyed to the mortuary.

PROPOSED INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION AT LEEDS.—Yesterday, at a meeting of the Leeds town council, a committee was appointed to report on the feasibility of holding an international exhibition at Leeds in 1890. It was stated that the only exhibition ever held in Leeds of any great importance was in 1875. That exhibition realized £32,000, the profits on which were just over £7,000. Since the year 1875 the population of the borough had increased by 60,000 or 70,000, and there had been a corresponding increase in the population of the surrounding districts.

TRAFFIC RECEIPTS.

The traffic receipts of the undermentioned companies for the week ended July 29, compared with the corresponding week last year, are as follows:—

RAILWAYS.	Increase.	Decrease.
Brighton	—	£15,790
Caledonian	£645	—
Chatham and Dover	—	6,956
Eastern and Mid	3	—
Great Eastern	—	15,628
Great Northern	—	9,779
Great Western	—	20,770
Hull and Barnsley	—	119
Lanc. and Yorkshire	—	7,284
Manc. and Sheffield	—	752
Metropolitan	887	—
Metropolitn. District	920	—
Midland	—	12,450
North British	4,174	—
North Eastern	990	—
North Stafford	213	—
North Western	—	28,647
South Eastern	—	6,441
South Western	—	11,206
Tilbury	—	1,915

TRAMWAYS.	Increase.	Decrease.
Belfast	£91	—
Bordeaux Tr. & Om.	—	£98
Bristol	159	—
Calais	—	15
Dublin	—	114
Edinburgh	—	211
Germany	64	—
Glasgow Tr. & Om.	1,627	—
Gothenburg	—	14
Hull Street	4	—
London	—	147
London Street	—	23
London Southern	83	—
North Metropolitan	—	115
Provincial	418	—
Rouen	6	—
Sheffield	—	56
Southampton	—	72
South London	—	99
Wolverhampton	—	35

"FOR THE BLOOD IS THE LIFE."—Clarke's world-famed Blood Mixture is warranted to cleanse the blood from all impurities, from whatever cause arising. For Scrofula, Scurvy, Eczema, skin and blood diseases, and sores of all kinds, its effects are marvellous. Thousands of testimonials. In bottles, 2s. 9d. and 11s. each, of all Chemists. Proprietors, Lincoln and Midland Counties Drug Company, Lincoln. Ask for Clarke's Blood Mixture, and do not be persuaded to take an imitation.

THE PALL MALL GAZETTE is sent post free to any address in the United Kingdom, or in the Postal Union, for 9s. 9d. per quarter.

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YESTERDAY'S "SCENES" IN THE COMMONS.

BY A SPECTATOR.

THE debate which was resumed at noon yesterday fully maintained the new standard of turbulence. It was only eight hours since the House had risen from the last sitting on what must now be called

"THE NOTHING-TO-DO-WITH MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT (CHARGES AND ALLEGATIONS) BILL."

But the interval for bed and breakfast since four A.M. proved to have quite sufficed for recruiting a jaded Legislature and bringing it up to the scratch for a fresh series of sensations and scenes. Again and again one rubbed one's eyes, and wondered if this could really be a Wednesday sitting. But we are like a party of emigrants into some volcanic land, who in their own were wont to tremble at the least wave of earthquake such as visits these shores now and again, but who soon grow accustomed to new conditions which put a morning shock on the level of a morning shower, and make a temporary cataclysm the usual relief to afternoons of dulness. We are getting *blasé*; and it is quite comforting to hear from the parliamentary seismologists that Mr. Smith has made arrangements for something quite phenomenal as a climax and grand finale for to-day.

MR. MATTHEWS MENDS HIS HAND.

There have been some unkind remarks on the selection of Mr. Matthews for the task of piloting the Inquisition Bill through the House. There is, however, one great advantage in having a man like Mr. Matthews to conduct a rather threshed-out business of this kind. You never know but that an entirely new face may be put on the question at any moment by some gay, light-hearted declaration from the Government spokesman. So it was yesterday; and every one should be very grateful to the Home Secretary for painting the whole affair up as good as new.

What had been hitherto the great point against the proposal to delete "and other persons"? Simply, that in order to investigate the Irish members it would be sometimes necessary to investigate friends and allies outside Parliament. There was the obvious answer that, so far as he had anything to do with a member, any one in the world would come within the purview of the Commission. But this, though never fairly met or denied, was ignored. Mr. Reid now proposed to stop all that by adding, in so many words, a proviso "in so far as the same bore upon the charges against the said members." It was plain that against this the old line of objection would not do. Everything at all relevant to members would be taken in. So Mr. Matthews, quite equal to the occasion, announces the discovery that members are not in fact the people with whom the bill has to do. Of all people, the very last to be affected by the "Members of Parliament (Charges and Allegations) Bill," were members of Parliament. The tribunal which was conceded to Mr. Parnell's reluctance to face a jury, the tribunal which Mr. Parnell was asked to welcome as a special generosity, and which was for Mr. Parnell and his friends "to accept or reject" out of hand, is erected, according to Mr. Matthews, to try any one but Mr. Parnell. No, the Commission is meant, and has been meant from the first, as a substitute for an ordinary Royal Commission into (1) the Land League, and (2) the National League. It is merely to sift the history and to clear the impugned character of the national political association and of its defunct predecessor. *Voilà tout!*

So far from inquiring into other people only so far as connected with the impugned members, the members would only be inquired into so far as they happened to be connected with the miscellaneous persons and matters. "It might be," so ran Mr. Matthews's words, "that certain members of Parliament were connected with the organization, and to this extent their conduct would be inquired into."

INTERRUPTIONS AND CONTRADICTIONS.

Mr. T. P. O'Connor and Mr. Clancy having been sharply and impressively warned by Mr. Courtney for angrily interrupting an insinuating quotation by Mr. Matthews from Mr. F. H. O'Donnell, Sir Wm. Harcourt at once addressed himself to the new discovery of the real object of the bill. It was to inquire into a political association. Why was not such an inquiry instituted in the ordinary way (if late in the day) by the Crown? The object of bespattering political opponents, by the way, had now lost even the pretext of being meant to clear their honour.

Mr. Balfour roundly asserted that what Mr. Matthews said then he had said before. That being so, it was curious to observe the entire surprise expressed by Sir Lyon Playfair and Mr. Bradlaugh, who followed, while Mr. J. Redmond said that it had entirely altered the situation for the Irish members. The new inquiry suggested was an excellent idea, if belated; but it was quite away from the charges against them, which had nothing to do with a study spreading over eight years of Irish history. Mr. Winterbotham took the same line, adding that he hoped the new inquiry would take in the causes of the bloodshed in Ulster, when it was "right" to "fight" at Belfast, for instance. Mr. Finlay, however, could "apprehend" no change of front on the Government's part. But Mr. Morley hoped the new inquiry would include the *causes*, as well as the incidents of the agrarian disquiet of 1880-81. He hoped now for a Commission for that, and a *Committee* to inquire about the members. He hoped also that Mr. Chamberlain would support the amendment. Mr. Chamberlain explained that it was the narrowing of charges, not of persons, that he had approved. He advised the Parnellites to try the off-chance of finding and producing the actual murderers in this way. Sir W. Harcourt (who wittily remarked that though the Attorney-General knew nothing of the counsel for the *Times*, he had doubtless read the latter's speech) commented on the significant way in which first the forgeries were declared secondary evidence against the members, and then the members were declared secondary objects of the Commission.

MR. SMITH'S LITTLE SLIP.

Mr. Matthews was astonished beyond words that the Opposition had not detected his drift from the first. He had never thought of any members as the objects of inquiry. They should have marked his mention of the two Leagues on the second reading. Mr. Smith now discovered, too, that Mr. Matthews had rightly interpreted what he had meant all along. As for the title, the clerks of the House invented that. But, said Mr. Gladstone, the main point is that these "other persons" who now figure as the primary object were not even mentioned in your original offer to Mr. Parnell. They are a change in the covenant, and, however obscured, shall be shown up to the people as a change. All this in the most animated way: the Attorney-General and Mr. Balfour being much "drawn" by Mr. Gladstone's remarks on the withdrawal of the *forged letters* into the background. Mr. Healy quoted from the records of the House to prove the order of events and the date when the phrase first appeared with damning effect, which reduced Mr. Balfour to say that "he supposed Mr. Smith had made a slip" in his original offer. Inquiring about the twenty-four hours between the Cabinet meeting on the Thursday and the handing in of the notice on Friday, Mr. Healy asked if it was then the great visit occurred? He threw out a question by the way whether with the "old friend Walter" was not the "young friend Buckle" also? and was ridiculing the absence of Mr. Smith with much spirit, when Mr. Johnston explained that this was "due to a domestic affliction;" whereon Mr. Healy made a very graceful and kindly withdrawal.

MR. GOSCHEN'S ANGRY PASSIONS RISE.

Mr. Goschen, however, chose to make a scene by putting the matter on the footing of a belief or disbelief of Mr. Smith's word, and was severely rebuked by Mr. Gladstone for trying to fasten on him an insult to Mr. Smith where the difference of view involved none. Mr. Goschen nowadays has lost both his powers of speech and of keeping his temper. He seems always in the state of the "Jub-Jub" bird—

> The Jub-Jub's a desperate bird,
> It lives in perpetual passion;

and Mr. Goschen in a white rage is not an impressive sight. He reminds one of a stage Shylock in the scene about the ducats and the daughter. He almost wept tears over Mr. Gladstone, and when the Irishmen laughed, turned on them with "I've nothing to do with the men below the gangway!" For which furious folly Sir William Harcourt proceeded to take him by the throat—not quite literally, but almost with a ferocity equal to his own: till Mr. Courtney, equal to all emergencies, pulled him off, and in a little speech as *amicus curiæ* advised the House that it was much too angry all round to go on any longer. He then put the closure opportunely moved by Mr. Forrest Fulton, and (not without loud dissent from Mr. O'Hanlon up aloft in a gallery) it was carried.

Then the House rejected the principle of relevancy by a majority of 47 (194—241), and the sitting ended with a despatch of formal business: including a rather warm discussion of that "public benefactor, the blocker" (coupled more or less with the name of Dr. Tanner), and announcement by Mr. Goschen of Mr. Smith's coming Happy Despatch of the bill.

"TIMES" TACTICS: MR. REDMOND'S STORY.

Very great interest was caused by the account which Mr. Redmond, during his speech on the Amendment, incidentally gave of his treatment by the *Times*, which having misrepresented him as condoning the murder of Burke, has refused from that day to this to insert his simple explanation which he now repeated. Immediately after the murders he publicly expressed horror at that of Lord F. Cavendish. It happened at that early date to be the only one then reported. Hence the original loophole for the lie. But the *Times* also suppressed his explanation in the House soon after, and has since reproduced the original charge without either explanation. This triple charge made a great impression in the House. Mr. Sexton exclaimed, "Will it report this?" Mr. Morley adverted to the charges later. "As an experienced journalist," the former editor of the *Pall Mall Gazette* declared that, unless it answered, the *Times* was loaded thereby with the deepest infamy.

"WALKING" THE GAUNTLET.

The most amusing thing in a heated sitting was the exit of Sir E. Hamley, in disgusted dignity, on being a second time pulled up by Mr. Courtney for irrelevancy. He was making an amusing, if rather high-falutin, attack on the Parnellites. Thus baffled, he rose and started to walk out of the House. Now Sir E. Hamley's well-known military figure—tall, pompous, frock-coated, and with the contour of the pouter pigeon—is accustomed even on ordinary occasions to make very slow and stately progress, and having started now even more slowly and more pompously than usual he was compelled (since to quicken his pace would be unworthy of a British soldier) to perambulate the floor with simply phenomenal dignity, wearing a large sneer at the ecstatic demonstrations of his Irish foes. This lasted several minutes, and was unspeakably droll.

THE IRRIGATION WORKS IN EGYPT.

Consular testimony is borne to the value of the irrigation works undertaken by the Public Works Department in Egypt. In Upper Egypt, where irrigation by means of the basin system obtains, much is being done to improve the regulation of water passing from one basin to another, and a system has been introduced by which the excessive rising of the level of the river when the draining of these basins takes place is prevented. The Nile is being gradually trained year by year, and spurs and other forms of protective works are made which tend to prevent the river from eating away its banks. Large areas of land have been destroyed by erosion, but it is hoped that in time this will be entirely stopped, and the Nile made to flow within fixed limits. The most important work during 1887 was the repairing of the Barrage, the floor of the western part having been already raised and lengthened. New canals and branch canals have been commenced and old ones repaired, and large sums have been spent on the extension of drainage works in the Delta. The improvement of the drainage has not only rendered large areas fit for cultivation, but has prevented others from deteriorating.

PARNELLISM AND CHAMBERLAIN.

THE ACCOUNT OF THE GO-BETWEEN.

MR. W. H. O'SHEA writes to the *Times* as follows:—

The difference of recollection between Mr. Chamberlain and Mr. Parnell last night as to the circumstances of their interview the day after the Phœnix Park murders was a triviality which need not have embittered debate. The disputants were both right in the main.

I only wish that those who believe that Mr. Parnell had cognizance of the crime had seen him when he called on me the morning after it was committed. Innocence never showed itself more clearly under a terrible ordeal. I had a good opportunity of forming an opinion. Ten days before, in Kilmainham gaol, I had stood over Mr. Parnell as he signed his surrender in the form of a letter which Mr. Gladstone subsequently described as the most extraordinary he had ever read. I myself consider that the message I took Mr. Gladstone on the 7th of May was more extraordinary still, for it laid at the Prime Minister's feet not Mr. Parnell's political leadership, but his political life.

Full of horror as Mr. Parnell was that day, not only that two lives had been sacrificed but that a third one was in danger, it is not astonishing that he should have forgotten that he asked me to arrange an interview with a Minister whom he then considered his benefactor. . . .

Wild as Mr. Parnell's attack on Mr. Chamberlain may appear, I know that for a long time he has been honestly imbued with the fixed idea that in the course of their political communications Mr. Chamberlain has at some time or other divulged Cabinet secrets. The last time I spoke to Mr. Parnell, a short while before the division on the Home Rule Bill in 1886, he threatened to publish this charge, and the last advice I ever gave him was to make up his mind that Mr. Chamberlain would not object to his doing so at Charing-cross.

With regard to the local government scheme which in 1885 I presented to Mr. Chamberlain at Mr. Parnell's request, the latter's memory is curiously at fault. The scheme was altogether Mr. Parnell's, and Mr. Chamberlain adopted it with considerable hesitation because of its not being sufficiently consonant with Radical principles; it contained, for instance, the superior franchise which afterwards appeared in Mr. Gladstone's Home Rule Bill. But Mr. Chamberlain accepted it with all its blemishes because it was Mr. Parnell's very own. Why the latter should repudiate it is a mystery; the original claim to its creation and construction exists not only above his signature, but in his own handwriting.

But perhaps Mr. Parnell chiefly relied last night on the communications in 1885 in reference to the non-renewal of the expiring Crimes Act. It would be more correct to speak of the renewal of a portion of that Act. But here, again, there is surely some mistake. Even as a mere matter of business Mr. Chamberlain must, I apprehend, have consulted his colleagues. He was certainly supplied with data for the purpose, and, if he has not destroyed it, he must still have in his possession Mr. Parnell's own Coercion Bill. It is a copy of the original Act altered by his own hand into the form in which he proposed it should be passed with just enough show of opposition in the House of Commons to satisfy those concerned.

In the City.

INCREASE IN THE DELIVERIES OF COPPER.

The tide has for the present turned in favour of the Copper Syndicate, although there are no lack of prophecies that the movement can only be temporary. The statistics published by Messrs. Merton and Co. show that the deliveries in England and France last month increased to 9,766 tons, the average during the previous six months having been just over 5,500 tons, and in March last it was as low as 4,489 tons. While the deliveries have for the past seven months fallen 15,000 tons behind those of the corresponding period of 1887, last month's deliveries are considerably over the average in past years, so that apparently consumption has once more assumed normal conditions. On the other side, while the deliveries have increased, the receipts have grown in a greater degree, and the total stock is now larger by 3,170 tons than it was a month ago. The stocks now visible amount to 75,412 tons, as against 43,301 tons at the end of 1887.

THE ALLSOPP DIVIDEND.

The falling in values in Allsopp stock consequent on the smaller dividend declared—Ordinary, which within the present year touched 127½, is now 96½ ex div.—is explained. The directors in their report express "regret that sales during the past year have fallen off to the extent of about 7½ per cent., and that the profits have thereby not only directly diminished in amount, but further decreased through the increased pressure of fixed charges. The cost of material used has been very nearly the same as in the preceding year, but the stock now carried forward was bought at lower prices, so that the new year in that respect commences favourably." The company has not yet been benefited by any general revival of trade. The accounts for the year ending June 30 last show a profit of £176,227. The balance carried forward from the previous year was £12,952, and after 10 per cent. has been paid only £7,680 will be carried to the next account.

THE CRYSTAL PALACE COMPANY.

The Crystal Palace Company show somewhat better financial results for the half-year just closed, but as the increased revenue was almost entirely due to the Handel Festival, and, therefore, exceptional, the permanent prospect is not much improved. The total receipts, amounting to £72,034, show an increase of £14,179; and the total expenditure, amounting to £60,038, shows an increase of £10,704, leaving a balance of profit of £11,996, instead of £7,721 last year, to be carried to net revenue account. The bad weather and the competition of the many Exhibitions have been adverse influences.

TO-NIGHT'S ENTERTAINMENTS.

ADELPHI THEATRE.

(A. and S. GATTI, Sole Proprietors and Managers.)

THIS EVENING, at Eight, THE UNION JACK. Mr. William Terriss; Messrs. C. Cartwright, J. D. Beveridge, J. L. Shine, L. Cautley, D. Somers, H. Russell, H. Halsey, &c.; Miss Milward; Mesdames Helen Forsyth, O. Nethersole, D. Drummond, E. Bulton, and Clara Jecks. At 7.15, THE REFUGEES. Mr. D. Somers, Miss Agnes Miller, &c. MORNING PERFORMANCE BANK HOLIDAY (Monday Next), at 2. Doors open at 1.30.

VAUDEVILLE THEATRE.

(Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. THOMAS THORNE.)

JOSEPH'S SWEETHEART. 133th Time. Great success. TO-NIGHT, at 8.30, a New Comedy in Five Acts, by ROBERT BUCHANAN, entitled JOSEPH'S SWEETHEART. Preceded, at 7.45, by a new One Act Play, entitled THE BROTHERS, by H. BYATT. Messrs. W. Rignold, C. Maude, J. S. Blythe, S. Buist, F. Gilmore, F. Grove, and Fred Thorne; Mesdames L. Johnstone, G. Hounrey, Arnold, McNeil, Harrison, Matthews, and Kate Rorke. Box-office Open 10 till 6.30. SPECIAL MATINÉE BANK HOLIDAY (Monday Next), at 2.30.

TERRY'S THEATRE.

(Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. EDWARD TERRY.)

(Acting Manager, Mr. H. T. BRICKWELL.)

The safest and coolest Theatre in London, constructed entirely with iron and iron, absolutely fireproof, lighted throughout with electricity.

TO-NIGHT, at 8.30, A. W. PINERO'S New Three Act Domestic Drama, SWEET LAVENDER. 137th Time. Messrs. Edward Terry, Alfred Bishop, Lennox Thomas, T. C. Valentine, Bernard Gould, F. Kerr, Sant Matthews; Mesdames M. A. Victor, Carlotta Addison, Maude Millett, and Norreys. Doors open at 8. Carriages 11. MATINÉES BANK HOLIDAY, August 6, and EVERY SATURDAY, at 2.30. Seats at the Libraries and Box-office, open from 10 to 5. Telephone 4,702.

GLOBE THEATRE.

(Lessees and Managers, Mr. EDGAR BRUCE and Miss EDITH WOODWORTH.)

THIS EVENING, at 8.45, BOOTLES' BABY. 76th Time. Messrs. Charles Sugden, Richard Maurice, C. W. Garthorne, Forbes Dawson, Gilbert Farquhar, C. Montague, and Charles Cartwright; Mesdames Webster, Henrietta Lindley, Rose Evelyn, Maud Merrill, Minnie Terry. At 7.45, THREE COLOURS. Messrs. Forbes Dawson, A. J. Byde; Mesdames Gillard and Florence Grant.

PRINCE OF WALES' (late the Prince's) THEATRE.

(Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. HORACE SEDGER.)

EVERY EVENING, at 7.35, WARRANTED BURGLAR PROOF. At 8.30, punctually, DOROTHY. (378th Performance.)

Mesdames Effie Chapay, Florence Perry, Harriet Coveney, E. Weston, and Amy Augarde; Messrs. Ben Davies, A. Christian, F. Emney, J. Le Hay, Edward Grain, and C. Hayden Coffin. Musical Director, M. Ivan Caryll. Doors open 7.30. Box-office open from 10 till 5.

MATINÉE EVERY SATURDAY, at 2.30.

ITALIAN EXHIBITION.

In Concert Hall and Theatre, FRATELLI PRANDI'S MARIONETTES, "AMOR" and "THE LIVING SKELETON," at 3 and 7.45 P.M. The NEAPOLITAN MANDOLINISTS at 4.30 and 9 P.M.

CRYSTAL PALACE.

GRAND FAIRY BALLET, "A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM," arranged and produced under direction of Madame KATTI LANNER and Mr. OSCAR BARRETT, THIS and EVERY EVENING. Open air in fine, Centre Transept if Wet. The *Times* says:—"It ought to attract the public in shoals. It is the most practical realization of the beauties of the 'Midsummer Night's Dream' ever attempted." Admission daily, 1s.

SAVOY.—Proprietor and Manager, R. D'OYLY CARTE.—THIS EVENING at 8.30, THE MIKADO, Japanese Opera. By W. S. GILBERT and ARTHUR SULLIVAN. At 7.30, MRS. JARRAMIE'S GENIE. Box-office open from 9 A.M. till 11 P.M.

SAVOY.—THE MIKADO.—THIS and EVERY EVENING, at 8.30, and SATURDAY AFTERNOON, at 2.30, until further notice. Mr. Barrington, John Wilkinson, R. Cummings, W. Brownlow, and J. G. Robertson; Mesdames Jessie Bond, A. Hervey, S. Grey, and R. Brandram.

SAVOY.—THE MIKADO.

COMEDY THEATRE.—TO-NIGHT, at 9, a new farcical comedy in three acts, adapted from the German of Von Moser, entitled THE ARABIAN NIGHTS, by SYDNEY GRUNDY. Mr. C. H. Hawtrey, Mr. Willard Draycott, Mr. W. Wyes, and Mr. W. Blakeley; Mesdames Grahame, Miss Carlotta Zerbini, Miss Agnes Miller, Miss Gertrude Goetze, and Miss Rosie Teesdale. Box-office open 10 to 5. At 8.10 o'clock, SUNSET, by JEROME K. JEROME.—Business Manager, Mr. E. F. BRADLEY.

THE ARABIAN NIGHTS.—TO-NIGHT at 9.—COMEDY THEATRE.

CRITERION THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. CHARLES WYNDHAM. EVERY EVENING, at 8.45, DAVID GARRICK. 369th Performance. Preceded by, at 8.15, WHY WOMEN WEEP. Doors open 7.45.

DAVID GARRICK.—LAST NIGHTS of the PRESENT SEASON, in consequence of Mr. Wyndham's previous engagement to visit the provincial towns. BETSY will shortly be reproduced.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—Sole Lessee, Mr. HENRY IRVING.
SATURDAY NEXT, August 4, at 8.15, and EVERY EVENING,
Mr. RICHARD MANSFIELD as
DR. JEKYLL AND MR. HYDE.
Sole Authorized Version—Mr. Mansfield's original creation. Dramatized by kind permission of Mr. Robert Louis Stevenson. Box office (Mr. J. Hunt) now open daily from 10 to 5.

NIAGARA IN LONDON. COLOSSAL PICTURE of the GREAT FALLS, original effects, by PHILIPPOTEAUX. Pleasant Lounge, Music, American Museum, Electric Light. Refreshments by Begamot. Admission 1s. No fees. 10 to 10.—YORK STREET, WESTMINSTER, St. James's Park Station.

ART GALLERIES.

ROYAL ACADEMY OF ARTS.—EVENING EXHIBITION.—The EXHIBITION will be OPEN in the EVENING from Monday, July 30, to Monday, August 6 (Bank Holiday), from 7.30 to 10.30. Admission 6d. Catalogues 6d. On the Bank Holiday the admission throughout the day will be 6d.; on other days it will be as usual.

ROYAL ACADEMY OF ARTS.—LAST WEEK.—The Exhibition will CLOSE on the EVENING of MONDAY, August 6th.

THE NEW GALLERY, REGENT STREET.—The SUMMER EXHIBITION is NOW OPEN from 9 A.M. to 7 P.M.—Admission One Shilling. Will CLOSE TUESDAY, August 7.

IRISH EXHIBITION, IN LONDON, 1888.
In consequence of the great success of this Exhibition arrangements have been made to open the doors each day at 9 A.M., and close at 11.
ADMISSION ONE SHILLING.
THE DONEGAL INDUSTRIAL VILLAGE.
THE ARENA PARADE GROUND.
THE HORSE SHOW.
THE LEAPING COMPETITIONS.
THE DAIRY SHOW.
THE SHOW OF KERRY COWS, BULLS, AND HEIFERS.
THE OLD IRISH MARKET PLACE.
THE SHAM FIGHT.
THE BRITISH ARMY QUADRILLES BY FOUR MILITARY BANDS.
THE FINE ART DEPARTMENT AND LOAN COLLECTION.
THE ROCKS, CAVES, AND DRIPPING WELL.
THE RUINS OF BLARNEY CASTLE.
For further and full particulars of these wonderful representations, which the press throughout the land have unanimously pronounced the most useful, practical, interesting, and attractive of all Exhibitions, see this day's morning papers.

IRISH EXHIBITION.
ROYAL IRISH THEATRE.—Engagement of HERCAT, the eminent American Illusionist, Ventriloquist, and Humourist, who will present for the first time his marvellous invention, "The Mystery of She." Daily at 3.30 and 8.30

IRISH EXHIBITION.—IRISH BALLAD CONCERTS (under the Direction of MR WILLIAM LUDWIG). In New Concert Hall adjoining the Irish Exhibition, Olympia. TENTH CONCERT TO-NIGHT at 8.0. FIRST APPEARANCE IN ENGLAND of Mr, WILLIAM LAVIN, who will sing "Kathleen Mavourneen" and "You'll Remember Me." Miss Clara Merivale will sing "Sad One of Zion" and "I'm a Merry Zingara." Miss Marion Burke will sing "Silent, oh Moyle." and "The Kerry Dance." Mr. Casserley will sing "Eileen Alanna" and "Oh, breathe not his name." Mr. William Ludwig will sing "After the Battle" and "Avenging and Bright." Mr. Hogan (the celebrated Irish Piper) will play Selection of Airs. Tickets 3s. and 2s. (including admission to the Exhibition). Admission to Concert 1s. ELEVENTH CONCERT, TO-MORROW (Friday).

ANGLO-DANISH EXHIBITION AND FETE, SOUTH KENSINGTON, on the site of the previous Exhibitions, in AID of the BRITISH HOME for INCURABLES. Patrons: T.R.H. the Prince and Princess of WALES and the Crown Prince and Princess of DENMARK. NEW ATTRACTIONS. The Celebrated Hayward's Bijou Orchestra. The Three Little Washerwomen Polka, in Costume. May Pole and Morris Dancers, Balloon Ascents on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Saturdays. BANDS: Grenadier Guards, and Royal Horse Guards Blue.

ANGLO-DANISH EXHIBITION.—TABLEAUX VIVANTS, AQUATIC PERFORMANCE and Swimming Entertainment, ARCTIC MOUNTAIN RAILWAY, REAL CANADIAN TOBOGGAN SLIDE. BRILLIANT ILLUMINATIONS by James Pain and Sons. Admission, ONE SHILLING EVERY DAY. Open 11 A.M. to 10 P.M. SEASON TICKETS may now be had at half price—viz., 10s. 6d.
BANK HOLIDAY PROGRAMME.
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Two Grand Miscellaneous CONCERTS in the Royal Albert Hall, at 3 and 7 P.M., under the direction of Herr F. VON ZOSTROW. Stalls, Arena, and Orchestra, 1s; Balcony and Gallery, 6d. Admission only from the grounds of the
ANGLO-DANISH EXHIBITION.

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NOTICES.

Announcements of BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, *and* DEATHS *are inserted for 5s. each. The* PALL MALL GAZETTE *is sent post free for any number of days to any address in the United Kingdom, France, Germany, and all countries in the Postal Union, at the rate of ninepence per week, or 9s. 9d. per quarter. The* PALL MALL BUDGET, *also post free, costs for the United Kingdom 4s. 11d. per quarter; for all countries in the Postal Union 5s. 4d. per quarter; for India and China 6s. per quarter. Apply to the Manager,* PALL MALL GAZETTE, 2, NORTHUMBERLAND-STREET, STRAND, W.C.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS.

[Publishers would greatly oblige by stating the prices of books. Any notices under this head do not preclude further review, should such seem to be necessary.]

We have received the following books since our last issue:—

ANON. "The Son of Man in his relation to the Race." (Longmans. 2s. 6d.) [A re-examination of the Gospel of Matthew, xxv. 34-46. Pp. 187.]

"A PRIMROSE DAME." "Dame Primrose: a Sequel to the 'Vicar of Wakefield.'" (George Potter.) It must require no little temerity to attempt a continuation of Goldsmith's immortal work, as well as infinite ability to make such continuation a success, if success it could ever be. "A Primrose Dame" possesses the temerity, but that is all. Her qualifications for the task may be judged from the fact that she makes Dr. Johnson in the reign of George III. plead an important engagement with Dr. Swift! Mr. Henry Irving has permitted the doubtful compliment of a dedication. Pp. 118, cloth, 2s.]

"ART AND LETTERS: AN ILLUSTRATED REVIEW." (London: Boussod, Valadon, and Co.) [The August number contains a story, "No Dowry," by Georges Ohnet; the first part of an article on the "Opera before the Revolution," by Adolphe Jullien; the second part of "A Soldier's Reminiscences," by Vsevolod Garschine; and "A Word about the Italian Pre-Raphaelites," by Frédéric Masson. There are the usual sumptuous illustrations.]

BADDELEY, JOHN JAMES. "An Account of the Church and Parish of St. Giles." (Author: Moor lane, E.C. 10s. 6d.) [St. Giles is the burial place of Milton, John Fox, Martin Frobisher, and other great men; and no doubt this handsomely got-up history of the church will prove welcome to many. It is capitally illustrated.]

BAKER, CONRAD E. "The Foreign Commercial Correspondent." (Crosby Lockwood and Co.) [The book is described as aids to commercial correspondence in five languages—English, German, French, Italian, and Spanish. Numerous business letters are given in the five languages. Pp. 246, cloth.]

BIGELOW, JOHN. "France and the Confederate Navy, 1862-1868; an International Episode." (Sampson Low. 7s. 6d.)

BLACK, WILLIAM GEORGE. "Heligoland and the Islands of the North Sea." (Blackwoods.) [The geography, history, language, customs, and laws of the islands mentioned are discussed at length. Pp. 199, cloth.]

COLE, G. W., and W. RULSTON. "Messrs. Kamdene, Barnsburie, and D'Alston's Tour in the North." (Simpkin and Marshall.) [A series of humorous sketches. A capital idea remarkably well executed. Paper cover, 1s.]

COWIE, W. G., D.D. "Our Last Year in New Zealand, 1887." (Kegan Paul. 7s. 6d.) [Anticipating a visit to England in 1887, the Bishop of Auckland kept a journal during the year 1887. This is now published with a view of affording up-to-date information concerning the Church and State of New Zealand. Pp. 403, cloth.]

"CURTIS YORKE." "Hush!" (Bentley.) [A novel in three volumes.]

GALTON, ARTHUR (Editor). "English Prose from Maundeville to Thackeray." (Walter Scott.) [A volume of the Camelot Series. 1s.]

GOSSE, EDMUND. "Life of William Congreve." (Walter Scott. 1s.) [A volume of the "Great Writers" series.]

HUME, FERGUS. "Madame Midas." ("Hansom Cab" Publishing Co.) [A shilling sensational story of Australian mining life.]

KING, RICHARD ASHE ("Basil.") "A Leal Lass." (Ward and Downey.) [A novel in two volumes.]

LOWELL, JAMES RUSSELL. "Political Essays." (Macmillan.)

MILNE, DAVID, M.A. "A Readable English Dictionary." (John Murray.) [The plan adopted in this work has been to take the Latin and Greek roots and set out after each the various English words derived from it. A general index and dictionary is prefixed. Whether the result is a readable dictionary or not may be open to some doubt. A Scotsman once thought the ordinary dictionary full of stories, "interesting but unco' short." Of its great usefulness there can be no question. Pp. 299, cloth.]

OLIPHANT, LAWRENCE. "Altiora Peto." (Blackwood.) [A cheaper edition in one volume. Pp. 434, boards. 2s. 6d.]

"OSSIP SCHUBIN." "One of Us." A novel in three parts. (David Stott.) [Translated from the German of Fräulein Kirschner by Harriet F. Powell. Pp. 256, cloth.]

PENDLETON, EDMUND. "A Virginia Inheritance." (New York: Appleton.) [A novel in one volume. Pp. 303, cloth.]

THE ILLUSTRATED GUIDE TO CROMER AND NEIGHBOURHOOD. (Jarrold. 6d.)

THE ILLUSTRATED GUIDE TO GREAT YARMOUTH, &c. (Jarrold. 6d.)

VELEY, MARGARET. "A Marriage of Shadows, and other Poems." (Smith, Elder.) [This little volume differs from the usual collections of minor verse, inasmuch as the poems have considerable intrinsic worth, and an extrinsic interest is given to the book in the shape of a biographical and critical introduction from the pen of Mr. Leslie Stephen. Pp. 149, cloth.]

WAITE, A. E. (Editor). "Elfin Music: an Anthology of English Fairy Poetry." (Walter Scott.) [A volume of the "Canterbury Poets" series. 1s.]

BETTING AMONG WOMEN.

Last week two women were summoned for loitering in the footway in Market-street, Liverpool, for betting purposes. The police stated that they were professional bookmakers and "created a nuisance by loitering in the footway, betting book in hand." One of the women, Mary Joyce, is in the "habit of visiting Market-street every day with a betting book." Betting, like drinking, is bad enough in men; but it is ten times worse, if possible, and more degrading, in women, as the richest and fairest fruit is most nauseous when rotten. No wonder at boys betting in the streets, and even in Sunday schools, when mothers set the example. They were fined 10*s.* and costs.

A FOREST OF PETRIFIED WOOD.

Mr. William Adams, jun., was the discoverer of the celebrated petrified forest of Arizona, now generally known as Chalcedony Park. This deposit is situated about twenty-five miles south-east of Holbrook, in Apache county. The silicified trees are found protruding from the volcanic ash and lava, which is covered with sandstone to the depth of twenty or thirty feet. Sections of this fallen forest, whose only rivals are the giants of the Yosemite and Calaveras, lie around in profusion, measuring from two to ten feet in diameter, containing all the colours of the rainbow, some of whose hearts are solid crystals of amethyst and topaz, and only a slight degree from the diamond in hardness. Every colour found in nature or the arts is reproduced in these fallen agatized monarchs.

AN INDIAN DIAMOND FIELD.—Chutia-Nagpur (*vulgo* Chota Nagpur), in Bengal, possesses diamondiferous localities, and most of the finds were made in alluvial washings of the Tunk and its sister river, the Koel. Single diamonds of the value of Rs. 40,000 to Rs. 50,000 have been found in this tract, and it is stated that the family of the Rajah of Chutia-Nagpur still possess one of Rs. 40,000 in value.

CHINESE JUSTICE.—The Shanghai magistrate has lately shown that he is in earnest in his proclamation against cruelty to slave-girls bought for a life of shame. An infamous woman who was convicted of so ill-treating one of these unfortunates as to drive her to suicide has received two hundred blows with the whip and been led through the quarters where such cruelties most frequently occur, bearing on a board on her back a metrical proclamation detailing her offence, and warning other people not to imitate her.—*Shên Pao.*

TO-DAY AND TO-MORROW.

TO-DAY.

The Pope Bicentenary Commemoration, Twickenham.
Bradford College Commemoration, Reading.
Grocers' Company's School, Distribution of Prizes, 7.
Exhibitions, &c., Open—Anglo-Danish, South Kensington, from 11; Italian, West Brompton, from 11; Irish Exhibition, Olympia, from 9; North London Arcadia, Agricultural Hall, 7.30; Fire Rescue Exhibition, Portman Rooms, Baker-street, from 10.

TO-MORROW.

Alexander Pope's Bicentenary at Twickenham.
Balloon Society—Mr. T. Briggs on "Railways of the United Kingdom," St. James's Hall, 8.
Exhibitions, &c., Open—Anglo-Danish South Kensington, from 11; Italian, West Brompton, from 11; Irish Exhibition, Olympia, from 9; Fire Rescue Exhibition, Portman Rooms, Baker-street, from 10.

WEYMOUTH AND MELCOMBE REGIS CORPORATION REDEEMABLE STOCK.

ISSUE of £117,000 STOCK, being a portion of £162,000 authorized by "The Weymouth and Melcombe Regis Act, 1887" (50 and 51 Vict., c. cliii.), bearing interest at £3 per cent. per annum.

MINIMUM PRICE OF ISSUE, £94 per cent.

First half-yearly dividend will be paid January 1, 1889.

Special attention is directed to Section 141 of the above Act, by which it is enacted that "Trustees or other persons for the time being authorized to invest money in the Mortgages, Debentures, or Debenture Stock of any Railway or other Company shall, unless the contrary is provided by the instrument authorizing the Investment, have the same power of investing that money in Corporation Stock (other than Stock for the time being represented by a Stock Certificate to bearer) as they have of investing it in the Mortgages, Debentures, or Debenture Stock aforesaid."

The NATIONAL PROVINCIAL BANK OF ENGLAND (LIMITED) is authorized by the Corporation of the Borough of Weymouth and Melcombe Regis to RECEIVE TENDERS for the above STOCK, which will be issued at a minimum price of £94 per cent. free from Stamp Duty or other charge.

The instalments of the Loan will be payable as follows:—

On Application, 5 per cent.
On Allotment, so much of the amount tendered for and accepted as, when added to the Deposit, will leave 60 per cent. unpaid.
On Monday, the 3rd day of September, 1888, 30 per cent.
On Monday, the 1st day of October, 1888, the balance of 30 per cent.

Payments in full under discount at the Bank rate for the time being may be made on either of the above dates.

The Stock will bear interest at £3 per cent. per annum, payable on the 1st of January and the 1st of July, at the National Provincial Bank of England (Limited), Bishopsgate-street, London, or at any of its Branches, and Dividend Warrants will be transmitted by post if desired. The first half-yearly dividend will be payable January 1, 1889.

The amount of the Stock is required to pay off Harbour, Pier and Market Bonds, to deepen and improve the Harbour, to alter the Pier for the purpose of giving accommodation for an Improved Channel Islands Steam Passenger Service, to free the Bridge of existing tolls, for general street improvements, and the repayment of existing debts.

The Stock will be charged on the whole revenues of the Corporation from time to time arising from the Corporate property for the time being of the Corporation, and on the Borough Fund and Borough Rate and on the District Fund and General District Rate and on all other Funds and Rates established and leviable by the Corporation as a Municipal body for Municipal purposes, or as a Sanitary authority for sanitary purposes.

The income of the above-named properties, viz., the Harbour, Pier, and Markets, for the past three years has been collectively £12,347, which gives an average of £4,116 per annum, but the income of the harbour is expected to be considerably increased, as the Great Western Railway Company have entered into arrangements to put on a greatly improved service of steamers to the Channel Islands for passengers and general traffic.

The Corporation possesses properties the income from which, independent of those in their own occupation, is annually increasing by the expiration of leases, and will amount in 1889 to £1,170, by 1908 to over £2,200, and by 1938 to over £6,000 per annum.

The rateable value of the Borough at the present time is £68,624, and is yearly increasing.

The Borough and District rates are leviable by the Corporation over the whole rateable value of the Borough, and are unlimited in amount. The debt of the Corporation charged on the General District Rate and the Borough Fund and Borough Rate, on the 1st August, 1888, amounted to £23,000, which will be repaid from the present loan.

Under the provisions of the Act, the entire loan is repayable within 50 years from date of issue.

The Stock will be redeemable at par on or after the 25th March, 1918, at the option of the Corporation, upon one year's notice having been given by public advertisement, should the same not have been previously cancelled by purchase in the open markets by the operation of the Sinking Fund.

The Sinking Fund is subject to the supervision of the Local Government Board, and the provisions in reference thereto are enforceable by the said Board by mandamus of the High Court (see Section 98 of the Act).

The books of the Corporation Stock will be kept at the National Provincial Bank of England (Limited), Bishopsgate-street, London, where Stock Certificates will be issued and transfers registered.

Any stockholder may, if desired, obtain on application after payment in full, and in exchange for the scrip certificate, stock certificates to bearer for sums of £10, £20, £30, £100, £200, £500, and £1,000 free of charge.

All transfers and stock certificates will be free from stamp duty.

SEALED TENDERS on the form accompanying the Prospectus with the required deposit are to be delivered at the NATIONAL PROVINCIAL BANK OF ENGLAND (Limited), Bishopsgate-street, London, before Two o'clock on WEDNESDAY, the 8th day of August, 1888.

No tenders under the minimum price of 94 per cent. will be received, and tenders at a price including fractions of a shilling other than sixpence will not be accepted.

Where no allotment is made the deposit will be returned in full, and in case of a partial allotment the balance of the deposit will be applied towards the first instalment. If default be made in payment of any instalment at its proper date, the deposit and instalments previously paid will be liable to forfeiture.

Forms of Tender can be obtained at the National Provincial Bank of England (Limited), 112, Bishopsgate-street, London, or any of its Branches; Messrs. Eliot, Pearce, and Co., Old Bank, Weymouth; at the Offices of Messrs. J. and A. Scrimgeour, Stockbrokers, 18, Old Broad-street, E.C.; and at the Town Clerk's Office, Weymouth.

National Provincial Bank of England (Limited),
London, August 2, 1888.

Legion of Honour, 1878. Royal Portuguese Knighthood, 1883. Gold Medals at Principal Exhibitions.
JOHN BRINSMEAD AND SONS' Patent Sostenente PIANOS are for sale, hire, and on the three years' system. "The perfection of touch, tone, and durability."—18, 20, 22, Wigmore-street, London, W. Lists free.

NATHANIEL BERRY'S PIANOS, with brass plated actions, iron-plated backs, Warranted for 20 years. Price 18 guineas. THREE YEARS' SYSTEM. 14*s.* per month. Carriage and tuning free. No deposit or guarantee required. Upright iron grands from 25 guineas. Organs from 6*s.* per month. Send for illustrated price lists, with testimonials, 135, City-road, London, E.C.

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NEGRETTI AND ZAMBRA'S Celebrated BINOCULARS.
In Sling Case complete, Two Guineas and upwards.
MAKERS TO HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN.
HOLBORN-VIADUCT, E.C.
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Illustrated Lists free by post.

FURNISH on NORMAN and STACEY'S Instalment System, from wholesale firms. No deposit. 1, 2, or 3 years' credit, with option of purchase at any time. Strictly private. Free delivery.—Offices, 79, Queen Victoria-street, E.C., and 121, Pall-mall, S.W.

AN APPEAL
In aid of an unfortunate Widow Lady whose daughter is nearly blind and affected with a chronic peritonitis, desires to rejoin her relations in America, that she may be able to procure the necessaries to support her child.
She came to London in a comfortable position twelve years ago, but owing to the long illness of her daughter and other adversities, has lost all she possessed. Her hopes are placed on the bounty of those who like to do good to furnish her with the means to return to the United States and pay the debts incurred through illness.
Address donations to Doctor J. RUSSELL HARRIS, 13, Surrey-street, Strand, and to Mrs. JOSEPHINE ANDERSON, 25—27, King's-road, Chelsea.

THE ECONOMIC LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY.
(Established 1823).
The Rates of Premium are considerably lower than those usually charged, with early participation in profits, thus securing the immediate advantage of a larger original assurance.
EXISTING SUMS ASSURED, including outstanding Bonuses £9,426,117
CLAIMS have been paid to the amount of over eight millions.
CASH PROFITS declared amounting to nearly two millions and a half sterling, representing Reversionary Bonuses of four millions one hundred and fifty-three thousand pounds.
MUTUAL CONSTITUTION.—The whole of the Profits are divided among the Policy holders, who are expressly exempt from individual liability.
Statement of Accounts and full particulars on application.
6, NEW BRIDGE-STREET, BLACKFRIARS, LONDON, E.C.

IMPERIAL FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY. Established 1803. 1, Old Broad-street, E.C.; 22, Pall-mall, S.W. Subscribed Capital, £1,200,000; paid up, £300,000; total invested funds, over £1,600,000. E. COZENS SMITH, Gen. Manager.

WESTMINSTER FIRE OFFICE, 27, KING-STREET, COVENT-GARDEN.
Founded A.D. 1717. Losses promptly paid.
Insurances arranged by Telephone No. 3,692.
CHARLES ROUSE BROWNE, Secretary.

ACCIDENTS ALL THE YEAR ROUND. Provide against them by Policy of the RAILWAY PASSENGERS' ASSURANCE COMPANY, 64, CORNHILL, LONDON.
Hon. EVELYN ASHLEY, Chairman
Annual Income, £248,000.
Invested Capital and Reserve Fund, £275,000.
Compensation Paid for 126,000 Accidents, £2,500,000.
Moderate Premiums—Favourable Conditions—New Concessions. Prompt and Liberal Settlement of Claims. West-end Office:—8, Grand Hotel-buildings, W.C. Head Office:—64, Cornhill, London, E.C. WILLIAM J. VIAN, Secretary.

Established 1868.
THE LIBERATOR BUILDING SOCIETY,
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FIVE PER CENT. PAID ON SHARES (£30 each), and on deposits of £500 and upwards made for fixed terms.
DEPOSITS of £5 and upwards at ONE MONTH'S NOTICE, FOUR PER CENT.
Reserve Fund — SEVENTY-FIVE THOUSAND POUNDS.
For particulars apply to the Secretary,
F. H. ROCKE.

PERPETUAL INVESTMENT BUILDING SOCIETY.
16, NEW BRIDGE-STREET, BLACKFRIARS, E.C.
3½ per cent paid on Realized Shares of £10 and upwards.
Deposits received at 3 per cent., withdrawable at one week's notice.
Advances made upon Mortgage or Deposit of Deeds.
A Prospectus and 37th Annual Report sent upon application to
JOHN EDWARD TRESIDDER, Secretary.

MONARCH INVESTMENT BUILDING SOCIETY. Established 1867.
Total advances made exceed £1,385,685.
DEPOSITS received at 3½ and 4 per cent., subject to arrangement as to withdrawal.
DIVIDENDS paid half-yearly through the post.
For forms of application apply to
W. H. MAYERS, Secretary.
Offices: 23, Finsbury-circus, E.C.

TO BOOKBUYERS and Librarians of Free Libraries.—The AUGUST CATALOGUE of valuable NEW and SECONDHAND WORKS, offered at prices greatly reduced, is now ready, and will be sent post free upon application to W. H. SMITH and SON, Library Department, 186, Strand, London, W.C.

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PHILANTHROPY and 5 per cent. are often sought for, but the luxury of helping our suffering brethren can be now indulged in without pecuniary sacrifice, and in addition a £5 NOTE EARNED FOR ONESELF by the SIMPLEST of METHODS. See THURSDAY'S TRADE and FINANCE, a Newspaper for Everybody.—All Newsagents and Railway Bookstalls, or post free 2*d.*—35, Mark-lane, London, E.C.

THE MATRIMONIAL HERALD and FASHIONABLE MARRIAGE GAZETTE is the original and only recognized Mediumfor High-class INTRODUCTIONS. The largest and most successful matrimonial agency in the world. Price 5*d.*; in envelope, 4½*d.*—Address, "Editor," 40, Lamb's Conduit street, London, W.C.

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BEECHAM'S PILLS
are admitted by thousands to be worth above a guinea a box, for Bilious and Nervous Disorders such as wind and pain at the stomach, sick headache, giddiness, fulness and swelling after meals, dizziness, and drowsiness, cold chills, flushings of heat, loss of appetite, shortness of breath, costiveness, scurvy, blotches on the skin, disturbed sleep, frightful dreams, and all nervous and trembling sensations, &c. The first dose will give relief in twenty minutes. This is no fiction, for they have done it in thousands of cases
Every sufferer is earnestly invited to try one box of these pills, and they will be acknowledged to be
WORTH A GUINEA A BOX.
For females of all ages these pills are invaluable No female should be without them. There is no medicine to be found to equal Beecham's Pills for removing any obstruction or irregularity of the system. If taken according to the directions given with each box, they will soon restore females of all ages to robust health.
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Full directions are given with each box. Sold by all Druggists and Patent Medicine Dealers.

BLAIR'S GOUT PILLS. The GREAT REMEDY for GOUT, RHEUMATISM, SCIATICA, LUMBAGO, and NEURALGIA.
The excruciating pain is quickly relieved and cured in a few days by this celebrated Medicine.
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BOARD and RESIDENCE in private country house in Cornwall for one or two ladies. Beautiful scenery; high, healthy situation; large garden; good society.—C.C.C., care of P. Norman, Callington, Cornwall.

COUNTRY BOARD. — HINDHEAD, Haslemere, Surrey. Piano, tennis. References. Vacancies after middle of September.—Glen Lea, Haslemere, Surrey.

PARIS.—English widow lady offers comfortable HOME on moderate terms to parties visiting Paris.—Mdme. de M., 11, Rue Chateaubriand, Champs Elysées.

SWITZERLAND.—"Pension du Lac," Gunten, Lake of Thun, twenty-four hours from London. Good holiday quarters. Terms 28s. per week, including full board and apartments, with free boating, bathing, and fishing.—References permitted to E. Henley, Esq., 16, Stonebridge-park, N.W.

TO LET—West-end Central—prettily Furnished Drawing-room, Bedroom, Box-room, single Bedrooms. Excellent cooking, attendance.—Address F., 53, Harley-street, Cavendish-square.

WELL-FURNISHED DRAWING-ROOMS.—Gas, piano, good cooking, no children. Scrupulously clean. Terms moderate.—170, Euston-road, overlooking Euston-square.

HOUSES, &c., to be LET or SOLD.

TO SKETCHING PARTIES, &c.—COTTAGE, detached, prettily FURNISHED, three or four bedrooms, sitting-room, kitchen. Lovely scenery. Garden. Fishing. Servant if desired. Very moderate terms.—M., Shottermill Post-office, Surrey.

TO LET, on the top of Hampstead Heath, a FURNISHED COTTAGE, overlooking the Heath. Five bedrooms, two sitting rooms. Four guineas a week. Cannot take children. —Apply to Mrs. MOORE, Harrow Cottage, Hampstead Heath.

PENMAENMAWR, Wales.—FURNISHED VILLAS or APARTMENTS. Enclose stamped envelope.—EPSILON, Penrhyn Villa.

WESTGATE-ON-SEA.—Two sitting-rooms, six bedrooms, most comfortably furnished. If taken for three months terms would be moderate. Good cooking and attendance studied. —E. B., Mortimer House.

EDUCATIONAL.

ELOCUTION.—Unique instruction by Edwin Drew, Editor, THE ELOCUTIONIST (monthly), 124, Gower-street. Books 1s. 2d. Postal instruction. Innumerable, irreproachable references.

SCHORNE COLLEGE, near Winslow, for Sons of Clergy, Army, Navy, &c. Thirty guineas per annum; considerable reduction to brothers and orphans. Entrance fee, five guineas. Vicar is Warden.—Address, Rev. Dr JAMES.

THE FRENCH, SPANISH, AND PORTUGUESE IDIOMS TAUGHT in four months; guarantee.—Reply, Mr. CARVALHO, Poste-restante, Charing-cross

MISCELLANEOUS.

COLONIES.—Openings for Pupils on good stock and grain farms, estates, fruit farms and ranches in Canada, United States, and Tasmania.—For annual charge, pamphlet, &c., apply FORD RATHBONE and Co., 21, Finsbury-pavement, London.

STAMPS! STAMPS!!—Buy, sell, and exchange with Palmer, who agitated Parliament to pass Act to stop forged stamps. Cheapest house; best prices given for collections; opinions given on stamps gratis. 500 stamps, all different, 6d. Bric-à-Brac, 1d. Stamps sent on approval. J. W. PALMER, 281, Strand, London.

TO AUTHORS, JOURNALISTS, &c. An Editor of experience says:—"If the writers who deluge my table with MSS. would only spend TWOPENCE PER 100 WORDS in having their articles copied by a type writer, what a blessing it would be for me and the comps., and how much greater chance their copy would have of being read." TYPEWRITING DONE at that rate by "TYPEWRITER," 14, Shaftesbury-road, Hammersmith, W.

OLD ARTIFICIAL TEETH BOUGHT. Their full value return post.—Address, Manufacturing Dentist, 193, Junction-road, Holloway. Established twenty years.

WASHING WANTED by well-established good laundress. Has every convenience. Thoroughly understands getting up fine linen. Constant supply of water. Large open drying grounds. Good references. Terms moderate. Covered van in town daily.—Mrs. J. H., Cambridge Laundry, Bollo-bridge-road, Acton.

AUGUST.—BANK HOLIDAY. GENERAL ARRANGEMENTS.
LONDON, BRIGHTON, AND SOUTH COAST RAILWAY.

RETURN TICKETS.—SPECIAL FACILITIES.—All Ordinary Return Tickets issued between August 3 and 6 (both days inclusive) will be available for the Return Journey by any Train of corresponding description and class up to and including FRIDAY, August 10, except those issued for distances of less than ten miles.

The Cheap Saturday to Monday Tickets issued to or from London, &c., and the Seaside, &c., on Saturday, August 4th, will be available for Return on any day up to and including Wednesday, August 8th.

PARIS.—SPECIAL CHEAP EXCURSION. — From London Bridge 9.20 A.M. and 8.0 P.M., Victoria 9.10 A.M. and 7.50 P.M., Saturday, August 4th.

Returning from Paris on any day up to August 17th inclusive. Fares—First Class, 38s.; Second Class, 29s.

BRIGHTON. — SATURDAY TO TUESDAY.—SPECIAL CHEAP TRAINS, SATURDAY, August 4th, from Victoria 8.25 A.M. and 2.0 P.M., calling at Clapham Junction; from Kensington (Addison-road) 8.10 A.M. and 1.50 P.M., calling at West Brompton, Chelsea, and Battersea; from London Bridge 8.30 A.M. and 2.15 P.M., calling at New Cross, Norwood Junction and East Croydon.

Returning Tuesday, August 7th, by any Train after 6.0 P.M. Fare—Third Class, Five Shillings.

BRIGHTON AND BACK FOR THREE SHILLINGS EVERY SATURDAY, from Victoria 8.25 A.M., calling at Clapham Junction; from London Bridge 8.30 A.M., calling at New Cross, Norwood Junction, and East Croydon; and from Kensington (Addison-road) 8.10 A.M., calling at West Brompton, Chelsea, and Battersea. Returning from Brighton 7.10 P.M.

BRIGHTON and BACK FOR THREE SHILLINGS.—EVERY SUNDAY, from Victoria 8.50 A.M., from London Bridge 8.55 A.M., calling at New Cross, and from Kensington (Addison-road) 8.50 A.M., calling at West Brompton, Chelsea, Battersea, Clapham Junction, Balham, Streatham Hill, Crystal Palace, Norwood Junction, East Croydon, and South Croydon. Returning from Brighton 5.55 P.M.

BRIGHTON AND BACK FOR THREE SHILLINGS. — MONDAY, Aug. 6, by Special Trains leaving London Bridge 6.30 to 8.50 A.M., and Victoria 6.30 to 8.50 A.M.; also from Kensington (Addison-road) 8.15 A.M., calling at West Brompton, Chelsea, Clapham Junction, Balham, Streatham Hill, Crystal Palace, and Norwood Junction.

Returning the same day. Fare 3s., Third-class.

BRIGHTON AND BACK FOR THREE SHILLINGS. — MONDAY, August 6, by Special Cheap Trains from New Cross, 8.45 A.M., calling at Brockley, Honor Oak Park, Forest Hill, Sydenham, Penge, Anerley, and by Special Train from East Croydon 8.35 A.M., calling at South Croydon. Returning same day. Fare 3s., Third Class.

WORTHING AND BACK FOR THREE SHILLINGS. — MONDAY, AUGUST 6th, from London Bridge, Victoria, Kensington (Addison-road), Clapham Junction, New Cross, and other Suburban Stations by the Brighton Excursion Trains. Fare there and back, 3s., Third Class.

HASTINGS AND ST. LEONARDS AND BACK FOR FOUR SHILLINGS. MONDAY, August 6th, from London Bridge 7.30 A.M., from Victoria 7.30 A.M., calling at Clapham Junction. Returning same day. Fare 4s., Third Class.

EASTBOURNE AND BACK FOR FOUR SHILLINGS.—MONDAY, AUG. 6, from London Bridge 7.40 A.M., from Victoria 7.40 A.M., calling at Clapham Junction. Returning same day. Fare 4s., Third Class.

NEWHAVEN HARBOUR REGATTA AND BACK FOR THREE AND SIXPENCE, MONDAY, AUG. 6.—From London Bridge 7.40 A.M., from Victoria 7.40 A.M. Returning same day. Fare 3s. 6d., Third Class.

HASTINGS, ST. LEONARDS, EASTBOURNE, LEWES, and NEWHAVEN.—Special Cheap Train on Monday, August 6th, from New Cross, 8.0 A.M.; calling at Brockley, Honor Oak Park, Forest Hill, Sydenham, Penge, Anerley, Norwood Junction, and East Croydon. Returning same day.

Fares there and back: Hastings, St. Leonards, and Eastbourne 4s., Newhaven Harbour 3s. 6d., Lewes 3s.

PORTSMOUTH AND the ISLE OF WIGHT.—SATURDAY TO TUESDAY.—CHEAP TRAINS EVERY SATURDAY by Direct Main Line route from Victoria 1.0 P.M., calling at Clapham Junction; from Kensington 12.45 P.M.; from London Bridge, 2.40 P.M., calling at New Cross, Norwood Junction, and West Croydon. Returning the following Tuesday. Portsmouth Fare 5s., Third Class.

Through Tickets at Cheap Fares are also issued by these Trains to Ryde and all stations in the Isle of Wight.

PORTSMOUTH and BACK.—EVERY SUNDAY from London Bridge 8.55 A.M.; Victoria 9.0 A.M.; calling at Clapham Junction, Mitcham Junction, Sutton, Epsom, Leatherhead, and Dorking. Returning same day. Portsmouth Fare 4s.

PORTSMOUTH AND BACK FOR FOUR SHILLINGS, MONDAY, AUG. 6th. From London Bridge and Victoria 8.35 A.M., Kensington (Addison-road) 8.20 A.M., calling at Clapham Junction. Returning same day. Fares, Third Class, 4s.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—FREQUENT TRAINS DIRECT to the Crystal Palace from London Bridge, New Cross, Victoria, Kensington (Addison-road), Clapham Junction, &c., as required by the Traffic.

TRAINS SUSPENDED.—Several of the Main Line, Local Lines, Branch and Suburban Line Trains will not be run, and some of them will be altered in working. For particulars, see Special Bills.

FOR full particulars see Handbills, to be obtained at Victoria, London Bridge, or any other Station, and at the following Branch Offices, where Tickets may also be obtained:—West-end General Offices, 28, Regent-circus, Piccadilly, and 8, Grand Hotel-buildings, Trafalgar-square; Hays' Agency, Cornhill; and Cook's Ludgate-circus Office.

(By order) A. SARLE,
Secretary and General Manager.

BANK HOLIDAY.—SOUTH EASTERN RAILWAY. For full particulars of EXTENSION OF TIME of Express and Ordinary Return Tickets for distances over Ten and under Fifty miles, the Cheap Return Tickets issued on week-days between London and Sandling Junction, Hythe, Sandgate, Shorncliffe, Folkestone, Dover, and Sheerness, and the Cheap Saturday to Monday Return Tickets to the Seaside issued on August 4th. *See bills.*

BANK HOLIDAY.—Excursions to the Seaside, &c.—SOUTH EASTERN RAILWAY.—AT SPECIAL REDUCED FARES.—From London and New Cross to Tunbridge Wells, St. Leonards, Hastings, Canterbury, Ramsgate, Margate, Deal, Walmer, Ashford, Sandling Junction, Hythe, Sandgate, Shorncliffe, Folkestone, Dover, &c.

Fares, there and back, to Tunbridge Wells and Ashford, 3s.; and to other Stations, 4s.; 3rd Class.

Children under Twelve, Half Fares.

Cheap Excursions from Country Stations to Seaside and other Stations.

SPECIAL TRAINS for HAYES, BLACKHEATH, GREENWICH, GRAVESEND (for ROSHERVILLE GARDENS), &c.

Various Important Special alterations and arrangements.—Extra Trains 1, 2, and 3 Class.

SATURDAY TO MONDAY AT BOULOGNE. Cheap Excursion to Boulogne and back, leaving Charing-cross and Cannon-street Stations at 1.5 P.M. on Saturday, August 4, returning from Boulogne at 3.0 P.M. on Monday, August 6. First Class, 25s.; 3rd Class, 12s. 6d.

DOVER TO CALAIS AND BACK.—Cheap Tickets will be issued at the Steam Boat Office, Dover. 5s. Fore Cabin; 7s. 6d. Saloon.

CALAIS AND BACK on BANK HOLIDAY, AUGUST 6.
SOUTH EASTERN RAILWAY.

SPECIAL CHEAP EXCURSION leaving CHARING CROSS at 6.50 A.M., calling at Cannon-street and London Bridge. Returning from CALAIS at 7 P.M.

Fares there and back, 15s. first class; 10s. second class.

SOUTH EASTERN RAILWAY.—CHEAP TRIPS to PARIS and back by Night Services, viâ Folkestone and Boulogne (the cheapest, shortest and quickest short sea route), or viâ Dover and Calais. Fares, Third Class, 33s. 6d.; Second Class, 42s. Available for fourteen days from Charing-cross and Cannon-street Stations.

Express and Mail Services to the Continent as usual.

For further particulars see handbills, &c.

MYLES FENTON, General Manager.

MARGATE and BACK.—SUNDAY and BANK HOLIDAY.—The *OEOLE*, or other boat, will leave LONDON BRIDGE WHARF on SUNDAY and BANK HOLIDAY at 9.0 A.M (calling at Blackwall).

Fare there and back: Saloon, 5s.; children under twelve years of age, 2s. 6d.

MARGATE and RAMSGATE, from LONDON BRIDGE WHARF, DAILY (Sundays and Bank Holiday excepted), at 11 A.M., calling at Blackwall Pier. Single fare, 5s. and 4s.; children under twelve, 2s. 6d. Sundays, Margate and Back, at 8.30 A.M. Bank Holiday at 9 A.M. Fares 5s., children 2s. 6d. The new magnificent saloon steamers *Oriole* and *Mavis* are now running on this station.

HOLIDAY TRAFFIC.—To avoid inconvenience, passengers can take their tickets at the Booking Office, 55, Great Tower-street, London, up till 6 P.M. on August 3 for the SPECIAL FIRST-CLASS EXCURSIONS, leaving on SATURDAY, Aug. 4, for YARMOUTH, at 10 A.M. Fare, 12s.; return by rail, 15s. Or leaving at noon for Margate and Ramsgate, fare 5s.; Deal and Dover, fare 7s. Excursion to Dover, to return by water or London, Chatham, and Dover Railway, 12s. 6d.

LONDON and SCOTLAND. — The CARRON LINE of first class Passenger Steamers sail from CARRON and LONDON and CONTINENTAL STEAM WHARVES, 87-93, Lower East Smithfield, EVERY WEDNESDAY and SATURDAY for GRANGEMOUTH. Returning from Grangemouth Every Tuesday and Saturday. Average passage 30 hours. Trains run alongside the steamers at Grangemouth.

The best and cheapest route to the Glasgow Exhibition. First Cabin and 3rd class rail, return, including admission, 37s. Through bookings to Oban and the Highlands, and circular tours round Land's End, &c.

For particulars as to fares, berths, and all other information, apply to Gibbons and Company, 11, Pall-mall, S.W.; John Smither and Son (Limited), 65, Queen Victoria-street, E.C.; Newcomb and Son, 6, Water-lane, E.C; and Carron Company's Wharves, Lower East Smithfield, E.

TO GERMANY,
by Ocean Mail Steamer from Southampton, homeward bound from New York.

The magnificent EXPRESS STEAMERS of the NORDDEUTSCHER LLOYD, 5,500 tons, 6,000-horse power each, take passengers from Southampton for Bremen every Thursday and every Sunday. Lofty state rooms, liberal table, electric light everywhere. Fares: Through from London first saloon, £3 1s.; second saloon, £1 18s. 6d.; Return tickets, £4 15s. 6d. and £3 1s. respectively. All parts of Germany easily reached by rail from Bremen. Apply to Company's Agents, Keller, Wallis, and Co., 32, Cockspur-street, Charing-cross, London, S.W.; or 5 and 7, Fenchurch street, E.C.; or at Southampton.

SCOTLAND. — GLASGOW EXHIBITION.

THE MIDLAND COMPANY'S IMPROVED SUMMER SERVICE of Express Trains from LONDON (St. Pancras) to Scotland will come into operation on Monday, July 2nd, as under:—

Down trains.—Week days.

	A.M.	A.M. D	A.M. B	P.M.
London (St. Pa.) dep	5 15	10 30	10 40	12 20
Glasgow (St. E.) arr	4 5	7 50	..	11 25
Greenock ..... "	4 40	8 30	..	12 3
Edinburgh (Wa.) "	4 20	..	8 25	..
Perth ..... "	8 45	..	11 35	..
Aberdeen ..... "	9 35	..	3 5	..
Inverness ..... "	..	..	8 5	..
	P.M.	P.M.	A.M.	night

Down trains.—Week days. Sundays.

	Sat. nights excptd. P.M. A	P.M. E	P.M. A	P.M. E
London (St. Pa.) dep	8 25	9 15	8 25	9 15
Glasgow (St. E.) arr	6 20	7 40	6 20	7 40
Greenock ..... "	7 32	8 22	7 32	8 22
Edinburgh (Wa.) "	5 53	7 25	5 53	7 25
Perth ..... "	8 35	11 10	8 35	11 10
Aberdeen ..... "	12 0	1 55	12 0	1 55
Inverness ..... "	2 45	6 5	2 45	6 5
	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.

A.—Sleeping Saloon Cars to Glasgow, Greenock, and Edinburgh, and commencing July 20th to Perth also. B.—Drawing Room Saloon Car to Edinburgh. D.—Drawing Room Saloon Car to Glasgow. E.—Sleeping Saloon Cars to Edinburgh and Glasgow. First Class Passengers travel in the Cars attached to the Day Trains WITHOUT EXTRA PAYMENT. For Berths in Sleeping Saloon Cars the charge is 5s. in addition to the First Class Fare.

The Evening Express Trains reach Greenock in time for Passengers to join the *COLUMBA*, *IONA*, or *LORD OF THE ISLES* Steamers for the Highlands. Through Carriages from LONDON to Greenock by these Trains.

For particulars of Up Train Service from Scotland to London, see Time Tables issued by the Company.

JOHN NOBLE, General Manager.

Derby, June, 1888.

AUSTRALIA, NEW ZEALAND, TASMANIA.—ORIENT LINE FORTNIGHTLY SERVICE.

The following Steamships, belonging to the ORIENT and PACIFIC COMPANIES, leave LONDON as under, Plymouth one day later, Naples nine days later, for ALBANY, ADELAIDE, MELBOURNE, and SYDNEY direct with her Majesty's mails, taking passengers for all ports in AUSTRALASIA:—

	Tons	H.P.	
ORIZABA.....	6,118	7,000	....Aug. 3
LIGURIA	4,355	4,200	....Aug. 17
AUSTRAL.....	5,538	7,000	....Aug. 31
IBERIA	4,702	4,600	....Sept. 14
ORMUZ	5,161	7,000	....Sept. 28
CUZCO	3,918	4,000	....Oct. 12
ORIENT	[illegible]	[illegible]	....Oct. 26

Loading berth, Tilbury Docks.
Cheap Special and Return Tickets.

Managers, F. GREEN and Co., 13, Fenchurch-avenue, and ANDERSON, ANDERSON, and Co., 5, Fenchurch-avenue, London, E.C. For freight or passage apply to the latter firm, or to the West-end Agents, GRINDLAY and Co., 55, Parliament-street, S.W.

NORWEGIAN FJORDS.—For particulars of STEAM YACHTING CRUISES by best routes, apply to THOS. COOK and SON, Ludgate-circus, or 99, Grace-church-street.

AUSTRALASIAN CABLE-NEWS COMPANY (LIMITED).

The DAILY SHEETS of CABLED INTELLIGENCE from AUSTRALIA, New Zealand, New Caledonia, Fiji, New Guinea, and the Pacific Islands will shortly appear, and will embrace Messages on the following subjects:—Political, Pastoral, Agricultural, Meteorological, Financial, Property Sales, Mercantile, Shipping, Mining, Law, Social, Sporting, and Theatrical. Those desirous of taking the Daily Sheets, and thus a certaining day by day all that is going forward in the Colonies, should at once apply for particulars to L. A. CROWLEY, Secretary, 10, Pancras-lane, London, E.C.

ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING and LIGHTING.—IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT to GENTLEMEN'S SONS.—The London College of Electrical Engineering is now laying down an important Public Installation of Electric Lighting (both Arc and Incandescent), in which the students will have the advantage of carrying out the whole of the practical work and afterwards of attending to the maintenance. The number of Students will be strictly limited, and an early application should be addressed to the Principal.—The LONDON COLLEGE OF ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING, Nos. 9, 10, and 7, Railway approach, London Bridge, S.E. Established 1872.

A NOVELTY in ART WORK.—A unique exhibition of a novel and beautiful application of the pure fibre of FLAX (linen), dyed in fast washing colours, all fashionable shades, to purposes of artistic decoration of all kinds, domestic, ecclesiastical, decorative, and household linen, needlework, &c. An excellent substitute for silk. A model bedroom, decorated throughout in flax threads, on view. Admission on presentation of address card. Samples and materials may be obtained in the room.—HARRIS, 53, NEW BOND-STREET.

RENT £38.—Charming HOUSE, in healthy neighbourhood, convenient for boating or fishing; three reception and five bed rooms bath-room, and all conveniences.—Apply, STUCKELEY PARK ESTATE OFFICE, 17, Hilton-terrace, Fulham-road, S.W. (close to Parson's-green Railway Station)

TO SCHOOL PROPRIETORS.

READING.—To be SOLD or LET, a very substantial and commodious HOUSE, with spacious school and class-rooms, and every needful accommodation for school purposes, including magnificent covered swimming bath, with heating apparatus, &c. The property, which is Freehold, covers about two acres, includes a most productive garden, and occupies a fine position on high ground outside the town.—Full particulars of Messrs. J. OMER COOPER and SON, Estate Agents, Reading.

The LISTS will OPEN on FRIDAY, 3rd AUGUST, at 10 a.m., and CLOSE not later than 4 p.m. on the same day.

THE METROPOLITAN ELECTRIC SUPPLY COMPANY (Limited).

CAPITAL £500,000, in 50,000 SHARES of £10 each.

BEING

49,900 ORDINARY SHARES, and 100 FULLY PAID FOUNDERS' SHARES

TO BE INCREASED FROM TIME TO TIME AS THE WORKS EXTEND.

ISSUE OF 43,900 ORDINARY SHARES NOW OFFERED FOR PUBLIC SUBSCRIPTION,

and payable as follows:—10*s.* per Share on Application, £1 10*s.* per Share on Allotment, and the Balance (£8) in Calls of not more than £2 per Share, with intervals of at least Two Months between successive Calls.

More than one-half of this issue will be applied for by some of the Directors and their friends interested in the establishment of the Company, on the terms stated in this Prospectus, but without their being entitled to any preference in allotment.

DIRECTORS.

Sir JOHN PENDER, K.C.M.G., Chairman of the Eastern and Eastern Extension Telegraph Companies, Chairman.
Sir GEORGE ELLIOT, Bart., M.P., Director of the Telegraph Construction and Maintenance Company (Limited).
Sir ROBERT N. FOWLER, Bart., M.P., Alderman (Messrs. Dimsdale, Fowler, Barnard, and Co.)
Admiral Sir GEORGE H. RICHARDS, K.C.B., F.R.S., Managing Director of the Telegraph Construction and Maintenance Company (Limited).
Sir JAMES ANDERSON, Managing Director of the Eastern and Eastern and South African Telegraph Companies, &c.
J. SPENCER BALFOUR, Esq., Deputy Chairman of the Debenture Corporation (Limited).
J. E. H. GORDON, Esq., Electrical Engineer.
J. C. PARKINSON, Esq., Managing Director of the Alexandra (Newport and South Wales) Docks and Railway Company.
J. DENISON PENDER, Esq., Director of the Eastern Extension Telegraph Company (Limited).
JOHN B. VERITY, Esq., (Messrs. B. Verity and Sons, Electrical Engineers).
HENRY WEAVER, Esq., Managing Director of the Anglo-American Telegraph Company (Limited).
H. GRANVILLE WRIGHT, Esq., Director of the Hotel Victoria (Limited).

CONSULTING ENGINEERS.

SIR WILLIAM THOMSON, D.C.L., LL.D., F.R.S.
PROFESSOR GEORGE FORBES, F.R.S.E.
DR. JOHN HOPKINSON, M.A., F.R.S.

BANKERS.

Messrs. DIMSDALE, FOWLER, BARNARD, & DIMSDALES, 50, Cornhill, E.C.
ROYAL BANK OF SCOTLAND, 123, Bishopsgate-street Within, E.C.

AUDITORS.

Messrs. DELOITTE, DEVER, GRIFFITHS, & CO.

SOLICITORS.

Messrs. BIRCHAM AND CO., 46, Parliament-street, Westminster, and 50, Old Broad-street, E.C.

BROKERS.

Messrs. FENN AND CROSTHWAITE, 6, Princes-street, Bank, E.C.
Messrs. KENNETH ANDERSON AND CO., 10, Throgmorton-avenue, E.C.

SECRETARY (pro tem.):

E. A. FREEMAN, Esq.

TEMPORARY OFFICES.

WINCHESTER HOUSE, OLD BROAD-STREET, E.C.

PROSPECTUS.

The Directors of the Metropolitan Electric Supply Company (Limited), several of whom have been associated with the progressive development of Electrical science, and who were Pioneers of Submarine Telegraphy, believe that the time has arrived when the great work of Electric Lighting may be undertaken on a scale which will largely meet the requirements now supplied by gas, and that it can be established on a sound scientific and commercial basis. The Directors have waited to embark in the present undertaking until fully satisfied of its feasibility, and of its presenting assurances of permanent success.

This belief is founded upon the recent remarkable developments in electric engineering, both in storage batteries and improved means of distribution, which now enable electricity to be supplied like gas over large areas from Central Stations, at rates which will attract consumers and be remunerative to the Company. Heretofore the Electric Light has been more or or less experimental. There are very few installations working at the present moment that might not now be inaugurated at probably less than one-half of their original cost.

The expense and trouble of working separate installations on a small scale are such that the Directors are justified in believing, from actual instances, that the proprietors of many buildings, which are already lighted by their own electric plant, will prefer to avail themselves of the advantages offered by this Company.

The Electric Lighting Act of 1888 (which has recently received the Royal Assent) amending that of 1882, is also of considerable value as prolonging the term for which Provisional Orders will be in force.

The Company will at once construct works and supply Electricity within the Parishes of St. James, Westminster (Piccadilly), and St. Martin-in-the-Fields. These two Parishes are selected for the commencement of the Company's operations as they are considered the most important and valuable for Electric purposes in the Metropolis, and embrace many of the principal Clubs, Theatres, and Hotels.

Notices have been served upon the various Local Authorities of the intention of the company to apply for provisional orders in the following parishes and districts:—The parishes of St. Marylebone; St. Pancras; Lambeth; St. George, Hanover-square; St. Mary, Islington; St. Leonard, Shoreditch; Paddington; St. Matthew, Bethnal-green; St. Mary, Newington; Camberwell; St. James and St. John, Clerkenwell; Chelsea; St. Mary Abbott, Kensington; St. Luke, Middlesex; St. George the Martyr, Southwark; Bermondsey; St. George in the East; Hamlet of Mile-end Old Town; Woolwich; Rotherhithe; St. John, Hampstead; Fulham; Hammersmith; St. Margaret and John the Evangelist, Westminster; and the Parishes comprised in the District Boards of Works for the following Districts:—Westminster, Strand, Holborn, St. Giles's, Whitechapel, Greenwich, Wandsworth, Hackney, Limehouse, Poplar, St. Saviour's, Plumstead united with Lewisham, and the Parish of Rotherhithe united with St. Olave's District.

Pending the obtaining of such Orders, licences have been applied for to enable the Company to commence operations in the most convenient of these Districts at once.

The Company has entered into an Agreement to purchase the undertaking of the Whitehall Electric Supply Company (Limited), including the works now approaching completion in Whitehall-avenue, and the Contracts which the Whitehall Company has already obtained for lighting the Hotel Victoria, the Charing-cross Turkish Baths, the magnificent block of residential chambers known as Whitehall-court (this building alone taking 3,850 lamps) and the new buildings to be erected on the Salisbury Estate between the Strand and the Thames Embankment, on the site of Cecil and Salisbury-streets. There are also Contracts in connection with the above for the necessary works of installation, as well as for the utilization of the exhaust steam from the engines. These Contracts will, it is believed, in themselves form a profitable business.

The Engineers state the works at Whitehall will be ready by the 1st of October next, so that there will be no delay in commencing business.

The Agreement also provides for the acquisition by the Company of the Whitehall Company's interest in an extensive long leasehold wharf property adjoining the south end of Waterloo Bridge, which can accommodate machinery sufficient to work 150,000 lamps. This site has special advantages from its central position, and from the facilities it affords for obtaining coal and water at the lowest cost. It was selected, after very careful inquiry and consideration, as being pre-eminently adapted for the purposes of a great Central Station and General Depot.

The Company has arranged for a leasehold site in Sardinia-street, Lincoln's-inn-fields. This position is well adapted for another Central Station, opening up a fresh district which contains Theatres, Hotels, Restaurants, Printing Establishments, Newspaper Offices, and the valuable residential neighbourhood around Russell-square. The necessary works and plant are already designed, and it is anticipated that this station will also be in operation during the coming winter.

The Directors have under consideration proposals for absorbing the interest of some of the local undertakings now at work in the Metropolis. It is the intention of the Directors to ultimately extend the operation of this Company to districts outside the Metropolis.

THE COMPANY IS NOT COMMITTED TO ANY PARTICULAR PATENTS OR SYSTEMS, BUT IS QUITE FREE TO ADOPT ANY SYSTEM WHICH PROMISES FAVOURABLE RESULTS.

As illustrating the magnitude of the proposed undertaking, and its possibilities of profit, attention is directed to the figures relating to the three Gas Companies which supply London with Gas, and which are approximately as follows:—

Company.	Stock.	Called-up Capital.	Dividend, 1887.	Price per £100 Stock, 18th July, 1888.
Gas Light and Coke Company.....	"A"	£5,468,600	12½ per cent.	259 to 264
" " "	Other issues	4,820,400	—	—
		£10,289,000		
South Metropolitan.....	"A"	£500,000	15½ per cent.	317 to 320
" "	"B"	1,350,000	12 "	244 to 246
" "	"C"	141,500	15 "	256 to 259
" "	Debenture	550,000	—	—
		£2,541,500		
Commercial	Old	£550,000	13½ per cent.	268 to 271
"	New	130,000	10½ "	208 to 210
"	Debenture	121,234	—	—
		£801,234		
Grand Total.....		£13,631,734		

The Directors, without expressing any opinion as to the extent to which Gas will be used in the future, are satisfied that the Electric Light, from its greater power and brilliancy, its freedom from heat and noxious exhalations, and the ease and safety with which it can be turned on without the use of matches or other means of ignition, will largely supersede all other methods of lighting. The principal drawback to the Electric Light has hitherto been its expense; but by operating large numbers of lights from Central Stations the cost of production is very considerably less than by means of isolated installations.

The experience of Companies in the United States worked on the Central Station system is of a highly satisfactory character, and accounts for the remarkable development which this method of Electric Lighting has attained in that country. The annual net earnings of the under-mentioned Companies are stated to be as follows:—

New York	12 per cent.	Appleton (Wisconsin)	15 per cent.
Cincinnati	20 " "	Birmingham (Alabama)	14 " "
Harrisburg (Pennsylvania) ..	15 " "	Desmoines (Iowa)	14 " "
Shamokin (")..	22 " "	Laramie (Wyoming).....	13 " "
Williamsport (")..	12 " "	Chester (Pennsylvania)	20 " "
Boston 1st District	11 " "	Reading (")	15 " "

and the dividends actually paid, to vary from 8 per cent. to 20 per cent.

Dr. John Hopkinson, a leading authority on the subject of electricity, states in a letter dated 17th July instant, accepting the position of Consulting Engineer to this Company:—"I have great confidence that Electric Lighting on a large scale in the Metropolis can now be made to pay well."

ELECTRIC MOTORS.—There also exists a large field (offering an additional source of profit) for the use of Electric Motors for printing, lifts, and other purposes, for which gas and other engines are now employed. This method has been thoroughly tested in America, where it has proved a commercial success. The machinery of the Central Stations, which otherwise might be partially idle in the daytime, can be used for the supply of the necessary Electric Power. The Company will direct its special attention to this subject.

CAPITAL.—The original Capital of the Company has been fixed at £500,000, a sum which, in the opinion of the Directors, will be sufficient to complete and work the Installations above referred to, and to demonstrate the commercial value of the Undertaking. The 100 Founders' Shares will receive no dividend in any year until 7 per cent. for the year has been paid on the Ordinary Shares, after which they take half the surplus profits. 50 Founders' Shares are to be allotted to the Whitehall Company, or their nominees, as part of the consideration for the acquisition of their Undertaking, including the agreement for the Lease of the Wharf at Waterloo Bridge, the Sardinia street, site, &c., and the remaining fifty will be allotted to some of the Directors and other persons who have taken part in establishing the Company, and who will apply for more than one-half of the present issue of Ordinary Shares in the proportion of one Founders' Share to 500 Ordinary Shares; but these applicants are not entitled to any preference in the allotment of the Ordinary Shares. All the allottees of Founders' Shares will pay the full amount thereof in cash. As the Company's operations extend it will be necessary from time to time to increase its Capital, but no further Founders' Shares will be issued. The Directors propose that the holders of the original Capital of the Company shall be entitled to a preference or priority of allotment in all subsequent issues.

The consideration for the properties and rights to be acquired by the Company from the Whitehall Company has been fixed by the vendors at £79,888, to be satisfied as to £19,888 in cash, and as to the balance in shares or cash at the option of the Company. The vendors are also entitled to subscribe for 50 of the founders' shares.

The following contract has been entered into:—An agreement dated the 17th July, 1888, between the Whitehall Electric Supply Company (Limited) of the one part, and the Company under its then title of the South Metropolitan Electric Supply Company (Limited) of the other part.

There are other Contracts of an ordinary trading character, and Contracts between the Vendors and others, relating to the acquisition of the properties and the subscription of the capital, which may be deemed to be technically within the 38th Section of the Company's Act, 1867, but applicants for shares will be held to have notice thereof, and to have waived the necessity for specifying in this Prospectus the dates and the names of the parties to any Contracts other than the said Agreement of the 17th July, 1888.

Application for shares must be made on the Form accompanying the Prospectus, and sent with the deposit of 10*s.* per share to the Company's Bankers. Where no allotment is made the deposit will be returned in full, and where fewer shares are allotted than the number applied for, the balance of the deposit will be credited towards the amount due on allotment.

Prints of the Memorandum and Articles of Association, of the Agreement of the 17th July, 1888, and also Maps showing the sites and districts, may be inspected at the offices of the Solicitors of the Company.

Prospectuses, with Forms of Application for Shares, may be obtained at the Offices of the Company, or of their Bankers, Brokers, or Solicitors.

London, 26th July, 1888.

Printed and Published by RICHARD LAMBERT, at the Office, 2, Northumberland-street, Strand, in the Parish of St. Martin's-in-the-Fields.—THURSDAY, August 2, 1888.